

WIN
NURTURING
SKINCARE
FROM CLARINS

GENDER-BENDING
CHALLENGING
THE STEREOTYPES

**EXCLUSIVE
PHOTO ESSAY**
ELLE GOES
INSIDE
A PARIS
'FASHION
SHOW'

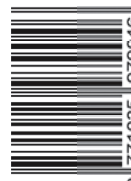
BACKSTAGE
BEAUTY
NEW SEASON
UPDATE

ON OUR COVER
NYKHOR
PAUL
FROM
REFUGEE CAMP
TO RUNWAY

winter FASHION edit

TIMELESS DENIM
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92

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ON THE COVER

Nykhor Paul from
20 Model Management
Photograph: Kope | Figgins
at One League
Make-up: Kelly Pataiki
at Gloss Artist Management
Tassel jacket, Tart; jeans, Guess;
boots, Zara



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PARIS

VICTORIA & ALFRED WATERFRONT, CAPE TOWN - HYDEPARK, JOHANNESBURG

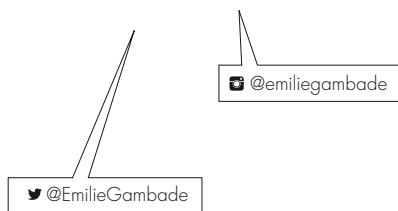


FASHION IS DEAD LONG LIVE FASHION

Dear You,



TALK TO ME



At the 2015 Design Indaba in Cape Town, international trend and fashion forecaster Lidewij Edelkoort declared, in a passionate exposé tinged with nostalgia, 'fashion is dead; this is the end of fashion as we know it', presenting the fashion industry as 'a ridiculous and pathetic parody of what it has been'.

Edelkoort's statement was backed by a 10-point printed manifesto dubbed 'Anti-Fashion, 10 reasons why the fashion system is obsolete', reporting on issues like education, manufacturing, marketing and even press and blogging. The commentary underlines, for example, the perils of an industry that promotes the fast consumption of clothes (and the substandard manufacturing of garments), or promotes monotonous trend cycles; it also stresses the lack of pertinent criticism in fashion reporting and the evil of marketing when it governs creativity.

As this team puts together our great Winter Fashion issue, I can only disagree.

Looking back at yesterday's fashion, you may certainly feel a shift, a substantial difference: customers have become consumers, and at cheaper prices, fast-produced collections fill our wardrobes, leaving little room for a long-lasting attachment to a specific garment or style. Fashion weeks have set a frantic pace that has collections coming and going in a flash, and the survival of ancestral savoir-faire is constantly challenged, existentially at times.

Yet, what might look like a fashion overload that prompts some experts to tumble into nostalgia isn't necessarily endemic to fashion: it is but the reality of a world that has been massively altered by the way we communicate, information flowing at us every day in gigantic waves. Some carry pearls of creativity, some carry flops and parodies. While years ago, fashion shows were experienced by only a lucky few and reviewed by a handful of journalists (leaving the rest of the audience waiting for their influential feedback), today, thanks to the internet and social media, collections are seen and commented on instantaneously by many people, around the world. The walls of high fashion have indeed tumbled, exposing it to millions.

Abundance might create confusion and an overwhelming feeling of more-is-more to the point of overdose; but it is also creating fabulous opportunities to connect, exchange and learn from each other. In Africa, designers today are showing energy and creativity not seen before; the need to explore identity through the making of clothes and accessories is ever-present and the hunger to use the elements of heritage and local craftsmanship to create our own modern fashion(s) is increasing. Before the internet and ubiquitous connection, it was nigh-impossible for them to make an impact on a global scale; today, I am certain that Africa is the next 'big thing'.

Like print, media and communication, fashion has indeed changed; there was no other choice. Still, to set ourselves apart, we must keep producing meaningful content, striking collections and fabulous imagery. We need to be curious, we must push boundaries, we must dare to explore the unexplored, defy the challenges, be impeccable and always, always risk going wrong; only then can beautiful things be made, fashions grow, emotions flow, as you can see and feel on every page of this magazine.

The way we see it here at ELLE, fashion today is more exciting than ever. Long may it live.

Emilie

ANGEL

BEWARE OF ANGELS



Thierry Mugler

GEORGIA MAY JAGGER
DISCOVER YOUR FRAGRANCE
AT MUGLER.COM

CONTRIBUTORS

Welcome to ELLE's Winter Fashion issue, where we showcase the season's trends and wardrobe essentials, and asked two of our contributors about their fashion dreams and moments



@nykhor

ELLE

NAME
Nykhor Paul

DESIGNATION
International Model

STYLE ICON
Vivienne Westwood, Grace Jones, Alexander McQueen

EARLIEST FASHION MEMORY
First time when I was scolded, An agent came up to me and asked if I could audition and walked for J. Perry runway inside the mall.

A DINNER WITH A DESIGNER (ALIVE OR NOT): WHO WOULD IT BE AND WHY?
Vivienne Westwood and Alexander McQueen

FAVOURITE FASHION QUOTE
"fake it until you make it"

I ♥ ELLE



@boipelo_jean

@boipelo_jean

ELLE

NAME
Boipelo Jean Chaboka

DESTINATION
Paris, France

STYLE ICON
Rihanna - Typical we

EARLIEST FASHION MEMORY
I remember having an obsession with making paper dresses for my paper dolls...
Think I was around five

A DINNER WITH A DESIGNER (ALIVE OR NOT): WHO WOULD IT BE AND WHY?
Alexander McQueen! I would have loved to be a witness to his other-worldly creativity.
Maybe draw some of that insane imagination!

FAVOURITE FASHION QUOTE
"In order to be Irreplaceable One must always be Different!"

I ♥ Fashion

Elegance is an attitude

Kate Winslet
Kate Winslet

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READ

NICOLE'S STORY ABOUT COVER
STAR, NYKAOR ON
PAGE 78

WATCH

MAYBE'S BEHIND THE SCENES
VIDEO OF THIS MONTH'S
BEAUTY SHOOT



ELLEMagazineSA



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Miss Dior



So Miss, So Dior

UNCOVERED

NYKHOR PAUL

What guided our choice of cover star this month



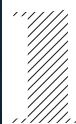
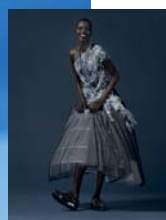
May is ELLE's great winter fashion issue and while we knew what the fashion section would look like, we hadn't decided on the cover. That was until we received news that Sudan-born and New York-based model Nykhor Paul was coming to South Africa straight from the Autumn/Winter 2015 shows in Paris.

The team gathered around the computer screen to scroll through her portfolio: here she was, featured in the Louis Vuitton SS 2013 campaign shot by the incredible Steven Meisel, in Karen Walker's AW 2014 Lookbook, and there, already on the covers of REVS magazine and ELLE Mexico. We would love to claim that we discovered her (as we love to scout for new talents!), but Nykhor is a runway regular in Milan, Paris and New York, and was nominated for the Humanitarian award at the Model Awards in 2014 alongside major names like Naomi Campbell, Christy Turlington, Jourdan Dunn and Liya Kebede.

She's the real deal.

It seemed perfect to pair our fashion issue with one of fashion's finest representatives. But beyond the natural connection, there was so much more: her smile is infectious and her down-to-earth attitude heart-warming. A few options were shot as potential covers by dynamic duo Kope | Figgins. But the one shot of Nykhor in the red tassel Tart jacket (the one we all swooned over at MBFWJ last March) was irresistible. Teamed with ripped black jeans and lace-up boots, the result is just as you see it: vibrant. Fashion has never been so fresh and alive.

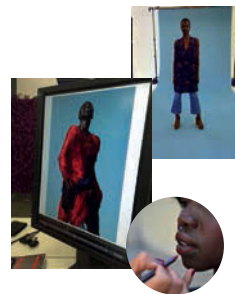
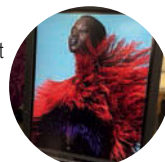
Tarryn Oppel



local designer pieces on set



to make the Tart tassel jacket



pairs of jeans



photographers



cupcakes

(for Tarryn's birthday)





roberto cavalli paradiso

THE NEW EAU DE PARFUM



ELLE DIGITAL



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With each issue we're giving away a perfume to the best #ELLESelfie. Win 1 of 5 bottles of **James Bond Woman 75ml** EDP worth **R580** each.

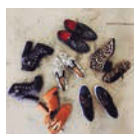


TOP @ELLEMAGAZINESA INSTAGRAM POSTS



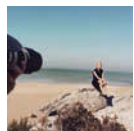
Have you seen [@zakirah_rabaney's](#) 5-day style diary? 457 likes

It's here! Our April [#CelebrationIssue](#) is on sale, starring [@modelomilano](#) in [@chusuwannapha](#) [#Chulaap](#) 368 likes



Shoes on set today for our May [#FashionIssue](#), which pair makes you happy? 275 likes

Modern '70s, behind-the-scenes on shoot today 233 likes



A peek over the photographer's shoulders with [@justinpolkey](#) 180 likes

[@stefaniamorland](#) showstopper – just beautiful! [#MBFWJ](#) 233 likes

Tweet us your comments on our May [#Fashionissue](#) to [@ELLEMAGAZINESA](#)

MUST WATCH!

Behind-the-scenes video, on set with our May issue cover star, Nykhor



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Tweet or Instagram us your May issue #ELLESelfie to [@ELLEMAGAZINESA](#) and we'll publish the best on [ELLE.co.za](#)



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#ASKELLE

Who's in the hot seat this month? Beauty intern **Eeden la Grange** answers your tweets.

@cammi11: What are the perks of being an ELLE intern? You get to see all the magazine content before the rest of the country! And sometimes you get to test beauty products for our tried and tested reviews.

@mieniekevdmrwe: Best beauty tip you've discovered? All the tips in the book *Pretty Honest* by Sally Hughes. It takes your beauty regimen to a whole new level.

@AyaPhly: Do you have to be beautiful to work in the beauty industry? Beauty is in the eye of the beholder. That said, I believe you should look after yourself and take care of how you present yourself to the world.

@Urkile: What must you study to become a beauty intern? You don't need to have studied beauty to qualify, but a strong and honest passion for the industry is a must.

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OUR EDIT OF THIS SEASON'S HOTTEST FASHION AND BEAUTY TRENDS

ELERADAR



STREET COUTURE

A style hero since before we can remember, denim has been elevated to runway status. Mix sleek with street like Moschino's Autumn/Winter 2014 collection

TREND REPORT

DENIM DIARIES

Designers indulged in denim across the Autumn/Winter 2014 and Spring/Summer 2015 collections. From sleek to stone-washed and pieces in between, this streetwear style has been updated (in all the best ways) for the season ahead



MARIANNE FASSLER

LOCAL DENIM LOVE

Marianne Fassler showed her approval of distressed denim by making these pieces the highlight of her Spring/Summer 2015 collection at Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week Joburg. From patchwork pieces on slouchy separates to fresh updates of the classics we know and love, this was a denim dream



MARIANNE FASSLER

ELLE
.CO.ZA

GO ONLINE

*for five minutes with
Marianne Fassler*

PRINTED PERFECTION
Stand out and keep a step ahead of the rest - these printed pieces make for an unexpected denim update and have been given the nod by the stars of the street



SNAKESKIN-PRINT JEANS, R1 699, ANNA SCOTT



JEANS, R1 099, Sissy Boy



SHIRT, R1 999, ANNA SCOTT



CROPPED JEANS, R2 999, CALVIN KLEIN

ELLE LOVES

There's nothing we love more than when two of our favourite fashion separates come together to create one must-have item: these cropped denim culottes from Calvin Klein are at the top of our denim list



GUCCI SS15



DRESS, R4 020, MAX MARA



JACKET, R829, TOPSHOP



JEANS, R1 895, LACOSTE

SLEEK SEPARATES

A soft shirt, structured jacket and straight-leg jeans - keep the silhouettes simple with no washes or rips in sight. These are your denim classics, for now and always



SHIRT, R1 999, CALVIN KLEIN



WASH-DETAIL JEANS, R4 499, DIESEL



RIPPED JEANS, R3 200, REPLAY



WASHED JEANS, R3 995, 7 FOR ALL MANKIND

DISTRESS YOURSELF

Whether with a wash, a fray, a tear or a tassel, this old-time favourite is still on top of the trends and well worth the wear



SUNGLASSES, R2 590, RAY-BAN AT SUNGLASS HUT



BACKPACK, R1 399, GUESS



SHIRT, R900, GUESS



MARQUES'ALMEIDA AW14



NEW YORK STREET STYLE

CHLOÉ SS15

INTERNATIONAL APPEAL

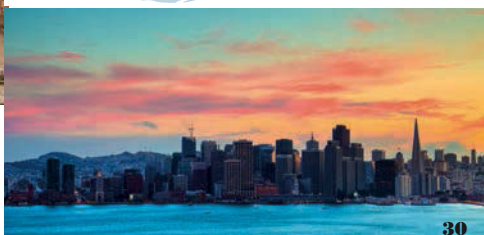
As buying and merchandise director for Levi's, Oliver Pywell gives us a look into the world of fashion, trends and all things denim as he sees it



PERSONAL STYLE My style is a combination of '50s denim and '90s grunge rock in lots of ways – but pretty much head-to-toe denim most of the time. **JOB DESCRIPTION** As buying and merchandise director for Levi's, I am responsible for all product in Africa, the Middle East and Pakistan. **FAVOURITE STYLE OF DENIM** Definitely a slim straight fit, large turn-up – selvedge denim. **NEXT UP FOR LEVI'S** The women's fit has been reset from a brand point of view in ladieswear – we've completely rebuilt the fit platform across all of our women's finishes. **DENIM GOALS FOR 2015** To find a colour darker than black; to use less water when washing my jeans; and to keep my jeans dirty for longer... **TOP DENIM STYLES THIS SEASON** The new 501 Customized and Tapered is one of the best fits being introduced as well as boyfriend jeans, which are still strong this season. I think the main trend in denim is that it has to be authentic. **MOST RECENT PURCHASE** A black leather trucker jacket I bought in San Francisco. **FAVOURITE RUNWAY DESIGNERS** Would have to be Martin Margiela and Yohji Yamamoto. **TOP 3 DENIM TRENDS ARE** Authentic destruction and repair, blacks bleached to grey in all tones and stretch selvedge super-skinny's. **BEST COUNTRY VISITED IN THE PAST YEAR** I did lots of travelling last year! The most interesting places I went to were Amman in Jordan and Tel Aviv in Israel but my favourite city has to be San Francisco, which I visit regularly.



LEVI'S 501 CUSTOMISED & TAPERED, R899





Denim, my goodness but it's been in our midst for a very long time. The question is, where's it heading? We've seen denim go from distressed to dressed-up over the years – and now denim on the runway, more specifically Resort 2015, has set the bar for how we should be wearing denim today. Don't get me wrong, those ripped, stone-washed skinny jeans we all have or will still own years down the line aren't going anywhere. That 'old-school' boxy denim jacket? Keep it. What? You have a pair of unwashed, dark-blue flared denims? Great! Now we're talking. What I'm saying is, all of the above (at the rate of denim today, yesterday and tomorrow) will be totally acceptable moving forward.

Although, just like anything in life or in the life of a hashtag, something's trending. This time, we're seeing an incredible amount of sophisticated, unwashed, double-duty denim pieces, the ones that can take you from nine to five and beyond during the week. (Those ripped skinny jeans can take a bit of a break and come out to play on the weekend instead.) Designers have recently been going all-out minimalist and somewhat glam. By 'glam' I mean fuss free, chic, structured and simple: longer-length belted jackets and pants at

Marques' Almeida for Winter 2014. Belted mid-length dresses (accompanied by knee-high boots) at Gucci Resort 2015. That structured-unstructured jumpsuit at Stella McCartney Spring 2015. Lea Peckre's Winter 2015 collection of strapless side-slit dresses and boxy top-and-pant suits.

Ok, moving on. Double denim. Here's a tip: when wearing denim head to toe, I would suggest steering clear of mixing washed with unwashed or even pairing washed with washed. Distressed pieces almost need that breather, something plain to bring it all together.

Unwashed denim, on the other hand, can be doubled up by mixing a light blue with a dark blue, or even better, wearing the same or similar shade of blue from top to toe. This makes sense, right? It's like wearing head-to-toe black – same concept.

Fancy those chunky block heels or tread loafers to complete your look? No, not keen to give it a go? Listen, if it's not for you, it's not for you, but I'm certainly not going to miss out on this one. Just like my leather biker jacket that I was avoiding because it seemed so 'rock star', but which has become a go-to piece to pair with my heels or crisp white shirt – it's how you wear it that counts.

This is exactly where minimalist denim is headed: down the fast lane and most likely into your wardrobe. Like I said, keep those skinny jeans, you'll definitely need them, just like that leather biker jacket, but you must agree that denim also has the right to be sophisticated and lust-worthy. I mean, it's a veteran in the fashion world and yet is still being (credibly) reinvented. In fact, it's had a serious upgrade and I'm ready to embrace it. Who's with me? □



GO ONLINE
for Tarryn's
top 10 denim
picks



LEA PECKRE AW15

DENIM | 01

By Tarryn Oppel



FENDI SS15

STELLA MCCARTNEY SS15

STELLA MCCARTNEY SS15



RICHARD NICOLL AW14

S M E G

Denim jacket,
R3 995, Adriano
Goldschmied

FROM THE #ELLEFASHION CUPBOARD

DENIM DESIGN

*a tailor-made fridge filled with denim
delights – this is industrial fashion
at its best*

*'Denim plays a huge role in
any woman's wardrobe and is
proving to be a versatile separate
among all fashion styles and
trends – they're the pieces you'll
have forever'*

NICOLE NEWMAN
JUNIOR FASHION EDITOR



Skinny jeans, R899, Guess



Straight leg
jeans, R3 695,
Current Elliot

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Ann-Sofie Johansson

Creative advisor for *H&M*, *Ann-Sofie Johansson* talks fashion and sustainability with *Emilie Gambade* at the *H&M Studio Collection A/W 2015* show at Paris Fashion Week

It is still early at the Westin Vendôme hotel, where journalists from around the world have been invited to view the latest H&M collection following the previous evening's show, yet the energy in the room is buzzing. The range, drawing from 1970s boldness, with linear prints, shimmering lurex and knee-high moonboots in pumpkin orange and deep forest green, was presented by It models like Gigi Hadid and Kendall Jenner. This season's Studio collection bore the H&M signature: daring and fun, for a girl with confidence and a ready-to-dance attitude.

If the show was all hype and boldness, the brand's creative advisor, Ann-Sofie Johansson, is refinement and gentleness personified. The creative mind behind

the collections has long natural hair let loose on her shoulders, a generous smile and a low-key simplicity that contrasts with the bright colours of the garments hanging on the rails around us.

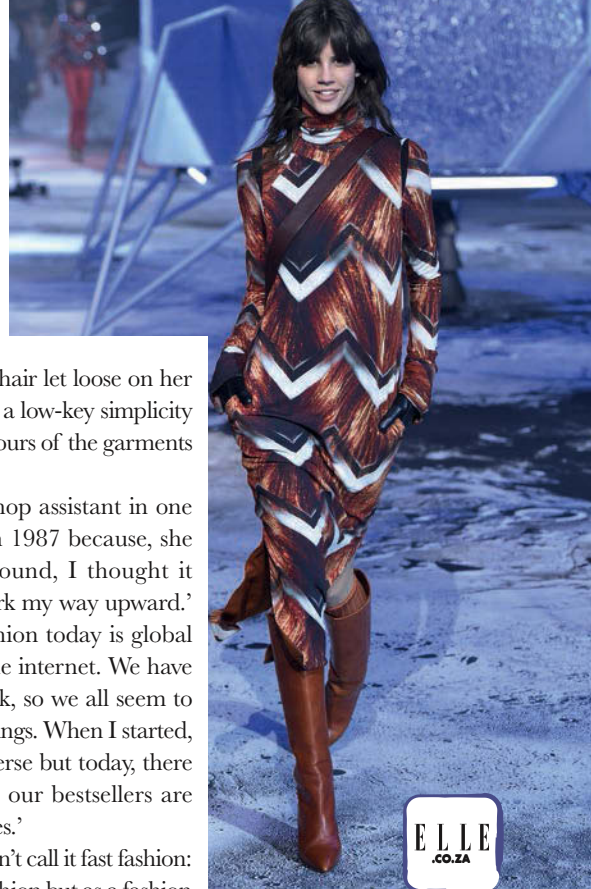
Johansson started out as a shop assistant in one of H&M's Stockholm stores in 1987 because, she says, 'With no design background, I thought it would be the easiest way to work my way upward.' But things have changed: 'Fashion today is global and that's mainly because of the internet. We have access to everything in one click, so we all seem to get inspiration from the same things. When I started, everything was much more diverse but today, there are only small differences and our bestsellers are often the same in many countries.'

Global fashion, maybe, but don't call it fast fashion: 'We don't see ourselves as fast fashion but as a fashion company. We have the opportunity to do things differently, as with our Conscious Exclusive collection. The future is to work in a sustainable way and we try to do that in everything we do. We want to be the best choice, the best sustainable fashion.'

Since 2013, the H&M Conscious Foundation has worked with communities around the world to promote 'Education, Clean Water and Strengthening Women'. But the company is also known for its collaborations with established designers, from Karl Lagerfeld, Comme des Garçons and Roberto Cavalli to Alexander Wang.

Johansson explains, 'We admire the designers we have been working with. It is inspiring to see how they work with the team, but I think it's a mutual feeling. We get as much inspiration from the designers we are collaborating with as they get from us, hopefully!'

The Swedish brand (born in 1947), which now has stores in 55 countries, is set to open its first shop at the V&A Waterfront in Cape Town later this year. Expect some futuristic 1970s-chic landing on our shores. Until then, Johansson's advice for a perfect wardrobe? 'Invest in a great wool coat and a roll-neck! Go for warm shades, camel, brown, rusty orange, burgundy and black. We'll never move away from black.' □



Go online for a preview of the *H&M Studio Collection*





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GO TO ELLE.CO.ZA
for 5 minutes with
Simon Deiner

(quest) **STYLE**
REPORTER

South African fashion photographer of fashion weeks and ramp,
*Simon Deiner snaps the best of Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week
 Joburg 2015 street style*

Tsholofelo Dikobe (right)
 🐦 *@TheKhoi_Fro and*

*Gaone Mothibi (left)
 @gaone_mathibi
 fashion artists &
 columnists for The Voice
 newspaper ▶*



Alexia Roussos,
student,
@Lexxiroussos ▲



◀ *Chu Suwannapha, fashion designer at CHULAAP*
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C U L T U R E C R U N C H

YOUR GUIDE TO THE HOTTEST HAPPENINGS IN AFRICA

19.06.15 – 21.06.2015

CAPE TOWN

CAPE TOWN BOOK FAIR



001 While there's nothing better in the cool months than curling up with a cup of hot chocolate and a DVD, this event will make you trade your duvet for a day of all things books. At this showcase of international bookstores and publishing companies at the CTICC, you can rub shoulders with other booklovers and get your literary fix. Capetownbookfair.co.za

04.06.15 – 07.06.15

ROBERTSON

WACKY WINE WEEKEND



002 Indulge in your favourite glass of red or white at the biggest wine festival in South Africa. With 40 wine farms and boutiques putting their best grape forward, you can join winemakers and sommeliers for a weekend of blending, tasting and pairing. You'll even be able to have a foot in making wine too. Wackywineweekend.com

29.05.15 – 31.05.15

JOBURG

GRAND DESIGNS LIVE
HOME & GARDEN SHOW



003 Ever wanted to create the perfect home but had no clue where to start? Now, with more than 300 exhibitors showing the latest trends in interiors and gardens at the Coca-Cola Dome, you can find inspiration and admire innovation – and get plenty of ideas about what to put where. Granddesignslive.co.za

19.06.15

JOBURG

ONE REPUBLIC LIVE

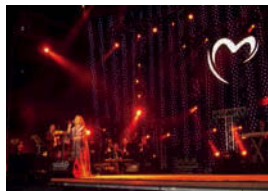


004 The five-man band is making its eagerly anticipated way to SA for its *Native* world tour. Since appearing in 2007 alongside Timbaland for *Apologize*, the musos have paved their own path in the pop/rock scene with hits like *Stop & Stare* and *Good Life*, earning heaps of awards along the way. Dream out loud with One Republic; book at Computicket.

29.05.15 – 06.06.15

MOROCCO

MAWAZINE FESTIVAL



005 If you needed an excuse to take a week off for a vay-cay, now you have one. Bringing music from all four corners of the globe for a week-long culture treat in Morocco is what this festival is about. Share in the rhythm of the world with acts like Maroon 5, Akon, Placebo, Black M and others for an unforgettable experience. Festivalmawazine.ma

20.05.15 – 25.05.15

SENEGAL

ST LOUIS INTERNATIONAL
JAZZ FESTIVAL



006 Jazz stars of riffs and scats come together to the colourful town of St Louis to play in a six-day festival – the largest jazz fest in Africa. Saintlouisjazz.org



ALBUMS LAUNCHING THIS MONTH:



MOVIE TO WATCH THIS MONTH:



WILDER MIND

BY MUMFORD & SONS

The band that made playing with a banjo on one knee popular is back with its third album. Folk and indie come together with the raspy sound of Marcus Mumford's voice to create a new set of classics.



FLORENCE

HOW BIG, HOW BLUE, HOW BEAUTIFUL

BY FLORENCE + THE MACHINE

Led by the haunting vocals of Florence Welch, the long-awaited album appears on 1 June. If the first single, *What Kind of Man*, is anything to go by, this new release offers the same honest, edgy lyrics as its forbears.



PITCH PERFECT 2

The pitches are back and this time the Barden Bellas face off in a world competition of a cappella that no American has ever won. With new tunes and the characters we fell in love with the first time round, the sequel will be aca-awesome.



ELLE READS



THE BOOK THAT
CHANGED
MY LIFE
TAIBO BACAR

Our next guest in this series, where we invite prominent people to share their most powerful reads with us, is Mozambican fashion designer Taibo Bacar. He tells us about the book that's made an enduring impression on him...

What's the title of the book? *A Millionaire in Lisbon* by José Rodrigues dos Santos.

How old were you when you discovered it? 28.

How did you come across it? I love the work of José Rodrigues dos Santos, and whenever a new book of his is released, I make sure to get a copy. He's the bestselling author in Portugal. So I had been looking out for this book.

Can you give us an idea of the story?

The book tells the story of a poor man who, after various sacrifices, made his fortune. He became one of the richest men in the world, and amassed the most refined and unique art collections. Thanks to his intelligence, he became a key person in the distribution of oil throughout many countries. He was an adventurous, ambitious man, in love with beauty, who wanted to live more than 100 years. After travelling around the world, he discovered Lisbon, where he chose to spend the last days of his life.

Was there a particular character who grabbed your imagination?

The main character, Kaloust Sarkisian (based on the real-life Armenian millionaire Calouste Gulbenkian). He had an amazing life!

What emotions did it inspire in you?

It made me want to grow as a person, made me see my life in perspective, and gave me a vision of who I wanted to become. It sparked an ambition to become a better person and realise greater things.

Is there a person or event in it that stood out for you?

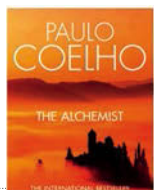
The passage where the Muslims and Christians are fighting and killing each other. It made me very sad to think that people can kill each other over something so subjective. I was also impressed to realise how much influence oil has had in the world economy and in our daily lives.

What did you think after you'd turned the last page?

I immediately wanted to visit Lisbon and visit all the places the book mentioned to understand the main character and his motivation better. It also prompted me to start making long-term projects for my personal and professional life. And, along the way, it made me appreciate the real value and meaning of 'beauty'.

Did it influence your views in any way?

I fell in love with art. I started asking all my friends to give me artworks instead of any other kind of gift for my birthday or on special occasions. □



PHOTOGRAPHS: SUPPLIED

OTHER BOOKS ON MY PERSONAL SHORT LIST...

The Seventh Seal by José Rodrigues dos Santos, *Vagabundos de Nós* by Daniel Sampaio; *Of Love and Other Demons* by Gabriel García Márquez; *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho



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OFF THE GRID
(& MEET THE FAMILY
WHO DOES)**

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**A STORY OF LOVE,
TENACITY &
HOPE FOR
THOUSANDS**

EDITION 111 2015
R38 (VAT INCL)
OTHER COUNTRIES
R33,33 (TAX EXCL)



DIANE VON FURSTENBERG



1. John Frieda Frizz-Ease Extra Strength Serum, R99
2. Marc Anthony 2nd Day Clear Dry Shampoo, R110

PERFORMANCE READY

The latest wellness trend reflected on many AW14 runways: sleek ballerina-like buns were seen at Jean Paul Gaultier and Prada, and a more relaxed approach towards the style was adopted by Diane von Furstenberg.



PRADA



RALPH LAUREN

BOHEMIAN WAVES

Soft, loose waves made a big impact: look no further than Blumarine, Chloé and Ralph Lauren for an effortlessly chic take on this look.



BLUMARINE

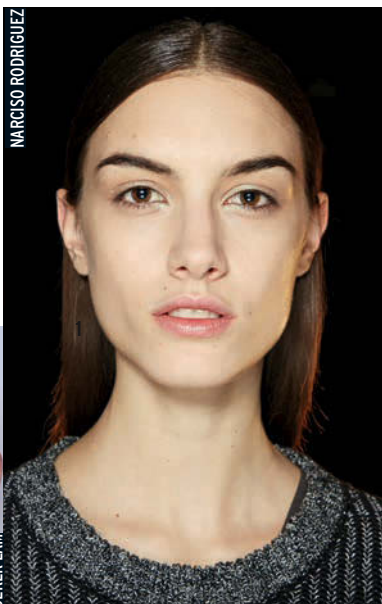


1. Ogx Thick & Full Biotin & Collagen Root Boost Spray, R180
2. FHI Heat Stylus, R1 995

CLEAN-CUT

Forget schoolgirl-pretty and think modern, edgy woman when separating your hair in the season's favourite: the centre parting. The more severe the part, the better.

MARCSO RODRIGUEZ



DEREK LAM



ghd tail comb, R105

MARC BY MARC JACOBS



THE BRAIDY BUNCH

Braids took the spotlight at many shows. The versatile hairstyle took the forms of cornrows at Marchesa, schoolgirl pigtailed at Givenchy and half-up half-down fishtails at Etro. Everything but conventional: worth DIY-ing at home.



Evo Helmut Finishing Spray, R335

TOP TIPS

The palette for nails for this season will range from deep shades of red and gunmetal to taupe grey and fresh nudes. For the more daring, metallic hues (gold among the favourites) and reversed manis were all the rage. A nail no-no this winter? Bright colours - save them for next spring.



VERA WANG



1. Wet n Wild Megalast Nail Varish in Sugar Coat, R55
2. Morgan Taylor Professional Nail Lacquer in Vixen in Mars, R123
3. Mavala Nail Colour Pearl in Flannel Grey, R68



TORY BURCH

'I keep the gel in my bag and use it as a midday refresher. I dab a tiny drop underneath the eyes and on my lids for an instant awakening effect. It works like a bomb, and a little goes a long way.'

MAYBE CORPACI
JUNIOR BEAUTY EDITOR

FROM THE #ELLEBEAUTY CLOSET

It's in the sea that miracle ingredients are found to create a superb product. Meet the last-in from esteemed beauty house La Mer. For eyes that shine with the light of youth, we welcome its new Illuminating Eye Gel



THE MAGIC?

This tiny pot boasts a combination of the brand's signature Miracle Broth™, rich in antioxidants to jump-start skin renewal, and the addition of innovative ferments and light-bending sea pearls, which aim to fight early signs of ageing and promote a luminous look.



La Mer Illuminating Eye Gel, R1 480 for 15ml



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p48 HOW TO WEAR... p52 THE (RE)BOOT p54 LACOSTE DECODED

ELLE SHOPPING

From paisley '70s to purely simple,
take your pick from our edit of the
trends to wear right now

WALK THIS WAY

Shoes, R15 400, Gucci

SOLDIER on

Introducing a sleek version of the military trend – think structure, hardware, khaki and camo (salute the accessories)



Calvin Klein
AW 2014

1. Side-slit top, R599, River Island 2. Trench coat, R27 500, Burberry 3. Boots, R1 999, Aldo Rise 4. Boots, R3 695, Carvela at Spitz 5. Watch, R3 895, Victorinox at Picot & Moss 6. Biker jacket, R5 999, Calvin Klein 7. Lace-up boots, R699, Bronx 8. Backpack, R31 860, Gucci 9. Dress, R2 199, G-Star Raw 10. Sleeveless parka, R999, Zara 11. Sunglasses, R1 384, Retrosuperfuture

ELLE SHOPPING



DO A RETRO reboot

Block heels, basic silhouettes
and tassels for added effect
– it's back. it's yesterday,
today!



1. Sunglasses, R4 170, Marc Jacobs at Safilo 2. Tassel jacket, R3 999, Zara 3. Hat, R349, Cotton On 4. Pants, R759, Topshop 5. Boots, R1 799, Zara
6. Chain bag, R44 000, Louis Vuitton 7. Heels, R12 900, Louis Vuitton 8. Purse, R4 340, Gucci 9. Shirt, R4 860, Equipment at Shop-Label
10. Knit, R699, Mango 11. Skirt, R889, Topshop

KEEP IT simple

Minimalist styling: it's all about the basic cover-up and its considered extras – take note and stick to the norm

Sonia Rykiel
AW 2014



1. Top-handle bag, R1 499, Dune 2. Cropped jacket, R859, Zara 3. Turtleneck knit, R699, Country Road 4. Watch, R8 950, TW Steel at Luxco
5. Sleeveless coat, R1 599, Mango 6. Sunglasses, R3 450, Marc Jacobs at Safilo 7. Top-handle bag, R29 300, Louis Vuitton 8. Side-slit knit, R999, Country Road 9. Tread heels, R679, Forever 21 10. Brogues, R499, Madison 11. Coat, R1 999, Mango

ELLE SHOPPING



GO ONLINE
for a mini winter
trend report



Prada
AW 2014

CAN YOU feel it?

Textures: leather, faux fur and pony-hair separates don't only look like they belong in winter but feel like it too!



1. Top, R2 599, Jigsaw 2. Faux-fur scarf, R90, MRP 3. Suede heels, R535, Madison 4. Tweed boots, R1 999, Aldo Rise 5. Leather dress, R7 700, Pringle of Scotland 6. Faux-fur coat, R1 499, Forever New 7. Pony-hair gloves, R1 300, Ted Baker at Stuttards 8. Faux-fur gilet, R699, R.E at Woolworths 9. Skirt, R559, Zara 10. Faux-croc bag, R659, Guess 11. Brogues, R1 499, Vince Camuto 12. Faux-fur bag, R659, Zara

The (Re)boot

As the temperature is cooling down, our footwear is moving up – the classic calf boot has been given a season update with a new shape, heel and feel. Put your best foot forward with these tips

SHOW SOME SKIN

Boots may be synonymous with winter but that doesn't mean we have to cover up completely. A shorter dress, skirt or coat will be your new boot's best friend. This not only adds variety to what you can pair your boots with but allows your look to be more playful, feminine and slightly edgier come the colder months. If you're a fan of the retro trend, opt for a miniskirt or shift dress and wear it with your boots – showing some skin between the two pieces as seen in Louis Vuitton Autumn/Winter 2014. If bohemian chic is more your style, pair your boots with a soft, printed just-above-the-knee-length dress showing subtle skin. If you want to wear pants, ensure that they are super-skinny – keeping the look sleek and chic – as seen in Saint Laurent Autumn/Winter 2014.

THE PERFECT FIT

The aim of the game when incorporating the tall boot into your wardrobe is how the top part of the boot fits around the upper calf area. This season it's not about having the perfect fit but rather having some room to move around the top, which means the lower leg will look slimmer and longer. With this updated classic gracing the runways, it's not hard to see that less is more when it comes to choosing your pair – no buckles, details or more than one colour required. For inspiration, look no further than the Valentino, Carven or Opening Ceremony Autumn/Winter 2015 collections.

NEW HEIGHTS

It's not the mid-length, nor the knee-high or the thigh-high – the new height is somewhere between those of the boots of the past. Not ending on the calf or going above the knee, the new boot sits somewhere in between – always covering the biggest area of the calf muscle. Heel height must also be considered when it comes to this new look but, generally, this boot has one type of heel and that's the midi block heel. If you're looking to add some spice to your footwear life, go for an embellished or appliqué heel à la Valentino Autumn/Winter 2015. □



ELLE
.CO.ZA

GO TO ELLE.CO.ZA
to see how street-style
stars wear the new
boot



VALENTINO AW14



LOUIS VUITTON AW14



SAINT LAURENT AW14



PARIS STREET STYLE

FW
FOOTWORK



Footwork



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court craft

Two groundbreaking innovations in the world of tennis brought comfort to its fashion and efficacy to the equipment

LACOSTE POLO
L.12.12



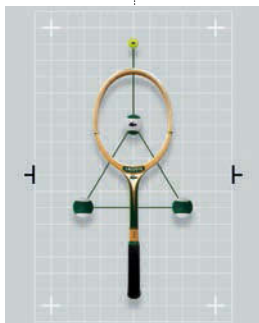
DOUBLES MATCH
Former world tennis champion René Lacoste teamed up with fabric expert André Gillier in 1933 to create cotton piqué polo shirts.



A FIERCE COMPETITOR
The famous Lacoste logo is based on the nickname 'The Alligator', given to Lacoste during his tennis career because of his tenacity.

A WINNER
Instead of having to roll up thick shirt sleeves, tennis players enjoyed a new freedom of movement, thanks to the revolutionary short-sleeve design.

ACE!
In 1963, Lacoste unveiled the first custom-made metal racket, which revolutionised the game around the world.



KEEPING SCORE
The name L.12.12 is derived from the following sequence: L - for Lacoste, 1 - because it's unique, 2 - factory code for short-sleeved, and 12 - the winning prototype chosen by Lacoste.

A GOOD RETURN
TODAY THE L12 COMPOSITE RACKET IS CUSTOM-MADE BY A FRENCH CRAFTSMAN IN ALBERTVILLE, FRANCE, EACH ONE TAKING FIVE HOURS TO PRODUCE. □

A black and white photograph of three models standing in a row against a dark, textured background. The model on the left is wearing a dark denim vest over a white top and light-colored denim shorts. The model in the middle is wearing a light-colored denim shirt over a white top and light-colored denim jeans. The model on the right is wearing a light-colored denim shirt over a white top and dark denim overalls. All three models are wearing dark, lace-up boots. The text "wear it #tightorwide" is overlaid in the center of the image.

wear it #tightorwide

G-STAR RAW
J E A N S

photography by ellen von unwerth

THE DEAL WITH DENIM

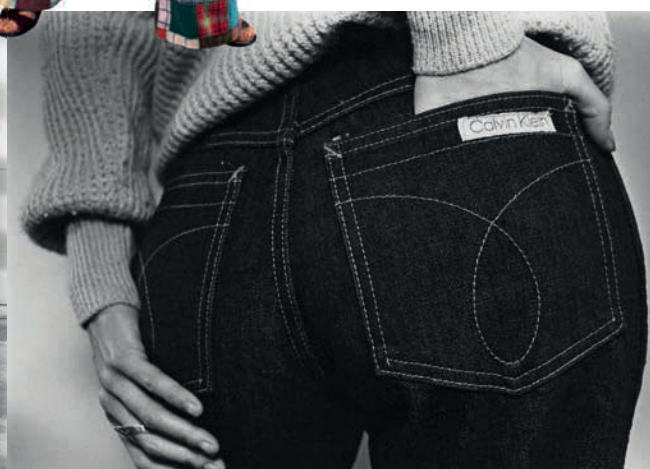
From *coal miners* and
cowboys to *couture*
collections and catwalks,
denim has had a long
journey and it's *nowhere*
near done, says
Nicole Newman



ELLE HISTORY

Jeans. The first thing that comes to mind when I hear this piece of clothing mentioned is that everyone I know owns at least one pair. My mother loves her Ronald Sassoon skinnies, my grandmother wears her Daniel Hechter straight-legs on casual days, my father has his Hugo Boss favourites, and my niece and nephew have His and Her jeans from Country Road Kids. Our dearly loved and deeply trusted denims have not only become our go-to item for (almost) every occasion but have also slowly but surely risen to great fashion heights. Our sturdy blues have been given style status in all areas; from leisure to luxe, there's nowhere that denim can't be taken and no separate, from classy or casual, that won't complement it perfectly. Yves Saint Laurent once said that he wished he had designed jeans, as they 'are expressive and discreet, they have sex appeal and simplicity – everything I could want for the clothes I design'.

There's something about these indigo items that leaves us wanting more as the years go by. With each new fashion cycle the denim styles are tweaked and altered to symbolise and reflect the changing times – think back to the bell-bottomed freedom of the 1970s, the post-punk distressed jeans of the 1980s, the 1990s hip-hop baggy jeans and the skinnies of the millennium. (Who can forget Kate Moss and the skin-tight jeans she wore every time she was photographed in 2000?) Jeans are everywhere and, according to the recently released book on all things denim, *Denim Dudes*, by Amy Leverton, almost four



THERE IS SOMETHING ABOUT A WOMAN WEARING MASCULINE CLOTHES THAT OOOZES SENSUALITY



LOUIS VUITTON SS15

billion jeans are produced each year, with the denim market being worth close to £50-billion.

It's not hard to believe that Topshop sells seven denim items every second, as per Leverton's research, and that each pair of jeans has a story of its own.

Denim, starting out as working men's attire, has had a long and interesting life to date, being the staple separate of people everywhere, from the horse-riding cowboy of Western America in the 1870s to high-fashion icons of today. Jeans are the fashion-equaliser of the world but it has taken them time, hard work and a whole lot of fun to get there. It's a fabric so strong on its own that brands have been built to be dedicated to it alone. From the heritage denim brands – The Lee Company, Wrangler, Guess and Levi's – to the newer brands such as Diesel, Current Elliot, Replay and, locally, Ronald Sassoon and retail giant Woolworths' denim subsidiary, R.E.

The longest-lived brand among them, a name synonymous with denim, jeans and the lifestyle that goes with them, is Levi's. And for good reason. In 1873 blue jeans were invented and patented by Levi Strauss and tailor Jacob Davis to create a sturdy, durable style of work pants for coal miners and cowboys. It's no wonder that our favourite pair of jeans can last us (almost) a lifetime. Hidden away, in the back of her wardrobe, I found my mom's original Levi's from the 1970s – they are the real deal 'mom' jeans that have now been recreated by almost every major retailer.

The history of the fabric, however, stretches further back than the Californian coast of America – beginning in the towns of Genoa in Italy and Nîmes in France in the 1500s. Jeans were worn by sailors: the term was derived from the French word for Genoa, Genes, and denim, originally being 'de Nîmes', which means 'from Nîmes'. Initially only found in a man's wardrobe, denim was associated with masculinity and ruggedness until Levi's created the first pair of female jeans in 1934. As women started to wear this traditionally men-only item, denim began to signal freedom for women and became a sign that women wanted to level off the difference between the sexes.

Wearing jeans soon turned into a symbol for femininity and sexuality in the fashion world – no one is likely to forget the photograph of Cindy Crawford wearing a pair of Levi's 501's with a hint



PRADA SS15



DOLCE & GABBANA SS15



STELLA MCCARTNEY SS15

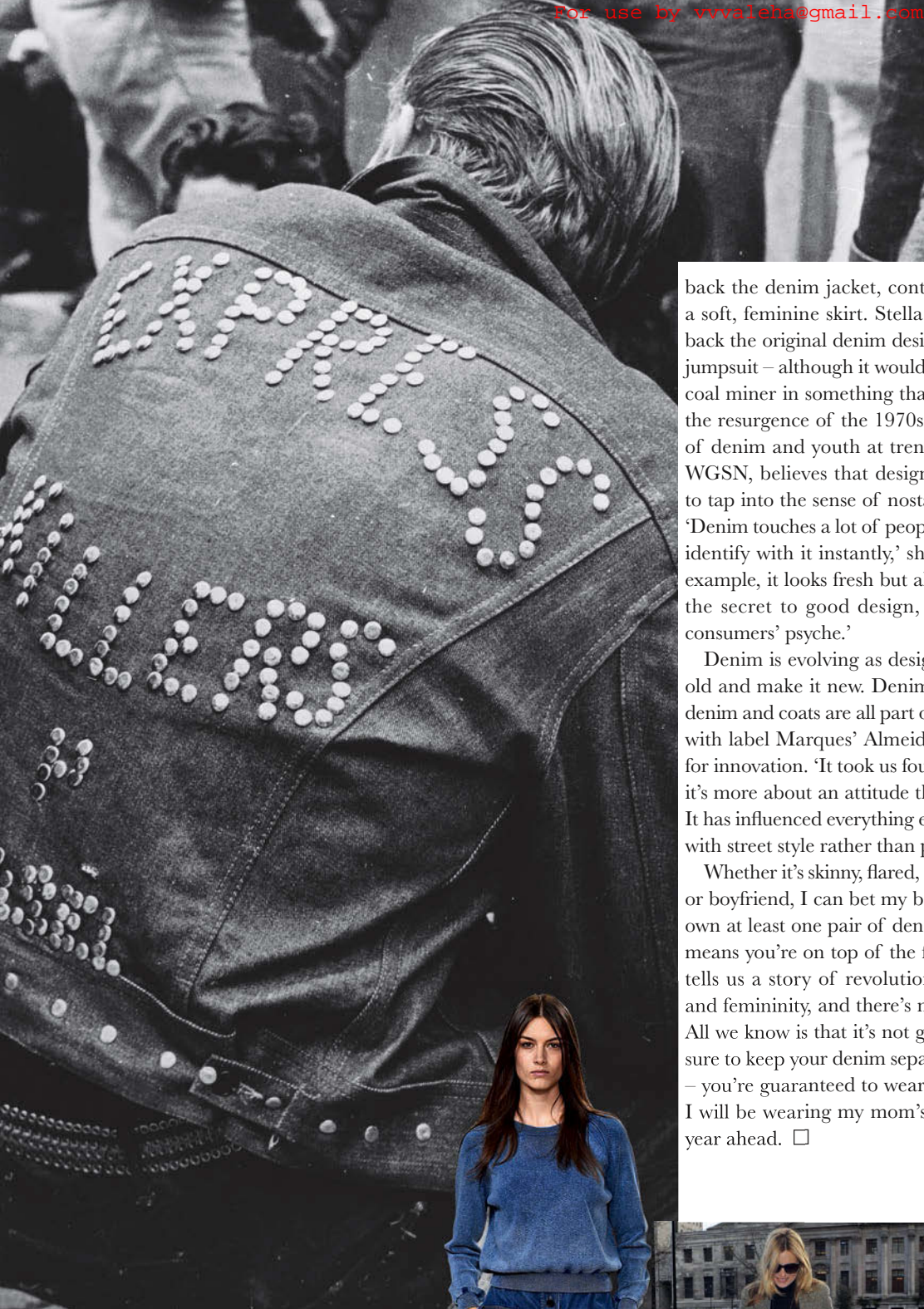
of underwear peeking out. Or Claudia Schiffer in a pair of skin-tight Guess jeans on the cover of *Tank* magazine – both images taken from behind with the models clearly topless.

There is something about a woman wearing masculine clothes that oozes sensuality. Farid Chenoune, a French fashion historian, says, 'wearing masculine clothing is always incredibly sexy, like with a pair of jeans or white shirt. It is hard clothing made for resistance. But when they are associated with the softness of feminine skin, it creates a hot and cold effect. A clashing contrast, which opens a door of fantasy.'

By the mid-1930s department stores across America were stocking Levi's jeans and now, more than 80 years later, they form part of any woman's capsule wardrobe (or more than just a part for some women). Denim today has expanded into a whole new realm of the fashion world as we know it. Although it's not the first time that it has appeared on the runway, over the past two seasons designers have done denim in ways we have never seen before. It has been reinvented and uplifted, all the while keeping its inherent features. There will always be a side of denim that is linked to workwear and to leisure time – suggesting youthful carelessness and authenticity. Denim is also for hard-working people – those who want to rebel against the finer fabrics of satin, silk or lace. It is these qualities that make it so resonant on the runway today.

Luxury designers have not only included this revolutionary aspect to their shows but they have made it the star. Louis Vuitton took a sleek approach to the blue hues while Burberry brought





back the denim jacket, contrasted perfectly with a soft, feminine skirt. Stella McCartney brought back the original denim design with the oversized jumpsuit – although it would be hard to imagine a coal miner in something that spectacular. Noting the resurgence of the 1970s, Levertson, also head of denim and youth at trend-forecasting agency WGSN, believes that designers are using denim to tap into the sense of nostalgia among wearers. ‘Denim touches a lot of people’s lives and they can identify with it instantly,’ she says. ‘At Prada, for example, it looks fresh but also so familiar. That’s the secret to good design, isn’t it? It taps into consumers’ psyche.’

Denim is evolving as designers take something old and make it new. Denim culottes, patchwork denim and coats are all part of the new collections, with label Marques’ Almeida coming out on top for innovation. ‘It took us four seasons to do jeans, it’s more about an attitude that denim represents. It has influenced everything else we do – a concern with street style rather than preciousness.’

Whether it’s skinny, flared, straight-leg, distressed or boyfriend, I can bet my bottom dollar that you own at least one pair of denims and, right now, it means you’re on top of the fashion game. Denim tells us a story of revolution, evolution, fashion and femininity, and there’s no telling what’s next. All we know is that it’s not going anywhere, so be sure to keep your denim separates somewhere safe – you’re guaranteed to wear them again, just like I will be wearing my mom’s ‘mom’ jeans for the year ahead. □



PHOTOGRAPHS: GALLO IMAGES/GETTY IMAGES



GO ONLINE
to see how street-
style stars wear
denim

Art has always provided a platform for subversiveness. Today, the catwalk – the showcase for a specific kind of art – is rapidly becoming the latest space where new expressions of defiance are being made. Designers are sending out clothes that do not sit comfortably within the ‘male/female’ dichotomy; androgynous models ‘cross over’ between sexes; make-up, garments, even shoes are gender-ambiguous or neutral.

Earlier this year, at Paris Fashion Week, Miuccia Prada posed the question, ‘What are the unexpected possibilities, the various relationships that may occur between the way men and women can or would dress?’

She added, ‘Gender is a context and often context is gendered,’ before showing Prada’s Autumn 2015 Menswear Collection that saw both male and female models going down the ramp in similarly structured jackets and coats, wearing the same style of footwear. For the Gucci show, male models wore pussy-bow blouses, a garment that is usually regarded as strictly feminine.

Gender-benders, in whatever sphere, view playing with masculine and feminine stereotypes as a catalyst for change – as both empowering and liberating. French designer Coco Chanel was one of the earliest, tossing aside those stereotypes by creating fashionable garments for women drawn from traditionally male styling. During the 1920s, when society expected women to behave a certain way, including the way they dressed, Chanel had other ideas. Her recreation of the loose jersey, an item worn by men, was reinvented as an alternative to the stiff corset that women usually wore. It was also not acceptable for women to wear trousers, unless working in a man’s role. But Chanel was a game-changer: with her iconic trouser suits, she ‘borrowed from the boys’ and set a trend for decades to come.

Gender is closely associated with what we have been taught as ‘the right way to act’. To counter that, the aesthetic of gender ambiguity has been embraced by a handful of celebrities. Think about Tilda Swinton and her elegantly androgynous style, David Bowie and his funky alter ego Ziggy Stardust, and singer Grace Jones, whose style was a deconstruction of both masculinity and femininity. Prince developed a feminine alter ego, Camille, who he used as a persona in some of his music. It is fascinating to watch high-profile entertainers like these challenge what it means to be called a man or a woman.



BLURRED LINES

As *more and more designers* blur the distinction between *male and female*, and both the big and small screens make room for gender-bending artists, *Ntombenhle Shezi* ponders whether gender ambiguity is just a trend

Closer to home, someone who is using parody to question ideas of masculinity vs femininity is Dope Saint Jude, a young rapper and aspiring documentary film-maker from Cape Town. The video for her latest song, *Keep in Touch*, featuring Angel-Ho, explores what it means to be a man or woman (of colour), particularly in the hip-hop arena, where notions of gender and race are usually entrenched. The video styling enhances the ambiguity and reflects what Saint Jude and Angel-Ho are hoping to convey through the track: ‘We’re young, talented, queer and here – deal with it.’

‘These issues are of paramount importance in a global context, but more specifically in the South African context, considering where we are as young

ELLE REPORT

born-frees, grappling with the legacy of apartheid and a male-dominated society, but still looking to the future, and creating new media, art and fashion that reflect where we are and where we want to be,' says Saint Jude.

Is any of this likely to make a meaningful change for people who identify as LGBTI? It is important to distinguish between those who play with gender expectations (whether for art, fashion or politics) and those who identify as trans. Not to say that one form is more legitimate than the other, or that they are mutually exclusive, but they can hold very different meanings for people.

For Busisiwe Deyi, Legal Research Coordinator at the Gender Dynamix organisation – the only organisation in South Africa focused on transgender issues – gender-bending in performance (especially in fashion) has pros and cons. On the one hand, such visibility is important and creates an opportunity for entities like Gender Dynamix to open the topic for discussion. On the other hand, she notes that the fashion business has a history of exploiting particular struggles to further its own agenda, without regard for its impact on the groups involved.

'The problem ... in the fashion industry is that people have the perception that transgenderism and gender-queering are "phases" and/or temporary. In reality, people who cannot access the necessary healthcare are being bullied to the point of killing themselves. The reality [of the lifestyle] is not fashionable,' she says. 'Prada's latest collection may have been "trendy", but is it really a testament to a change in consciousness, that the trend subverts the gender binary?'

Whether or not it's trendy to be androgynous, the point is that Prada, a powerful name in fashion, has identified this as an important moment in contemporary culture, and is contributing towards altering people's perceptions of gender.

What is also inspiring is seeing people who identify as transgender creating opportunities on the world stage, to talk about pressing issues affecting the LGBTI community. Deyi points to the example of Laverne Cox, who stars in *Orange Is The New Black* and recently made the cover of *Time* magazine. 'Her visibility is affirming of trans experiences and is affirming of the struggles that trans people go through. Unlike the fashion industry, she has a voice that she is using to address the realities of trans people.'

Conchita Wurst is another high-profile gender-challenger. Last year, the model and singer was photographed in her lingerie for *CR Fashion Book* and walked in Jean Paul Gaultier's Autumn/Winter couture show. Although she has chosen to take on a more feminine appearance, she has kept her beard,

'I WANT TO SHOW THAT YOU CAN HAVE A BEAUTIFUL LIFE WITH ANY KIND OF LOOK'



GO ONLINE
for our top five
gender-bending
moments in fashion
and art

saying in an interview with *CR Fashion Book*, 'I think the beard, for me, has so many reasons and so many meanings, but at the end of the day, I want to show that you can achieve anything, that you can have a beautiful life with any kind of look, because the way you look isn't the most important thing in life. It doesn't matter.'

What complicates the debate in South Africa is that LGBTI communities here still struggle for respect and equality. 'Currently, we are not having the necessary conversations around gender or understanding the full spectrum of gender,' says Deyi. 'There are multiple ways in which people express their gender and people cannot be limited to these two options.' (Vocabulary doesn't seem to help either. Our 11 languages in SA do not offer many non-derogatory terms for the queer and gender-non-conformist community.)

Among Deyi's proposals are gender-neutral uniforms in schools, a curriculum that addresses gender and gender identity, and a gender-neutral take on sports and other gender-defined activities.

While gender-bending performance in fashion and entertainment has started an important conversation, we have a way to go before we'll see a society where gender is no longer the defining issue. □

From left:
Tilda Swinton; Conchita
Wurst; Gucci on the catwalk
with Autumn 2015 Menswear;
from Prada's Autumn
2015 Menswear



FASHION UPLIFTED

Holly Meadows and Ntombenhle Shezi take a look at the new socially driven initiatives launched by fashion-industry insiders



INÉS CUATRECASAS, MILLE COLLINES

In the summer of 2005, a fashion student from Spain, Inés Cuatrecasas, and her mother travelled to Rwanda. While exploring the country, they met a dressmaker named Antoinette, who inspired Cuatrecasas with her passion and determination to develop clothing and accessories of international quality. In 2008, Cuatrecasas and her best friend, Marc Oliver, returned to Rwanda to develop their first collection with Antoinette and two local tailors. A year later, Mille Collines (French for 'a thousand hills') was born.

Ever since Cuatrecasas and Oliver created Mille Collines, they have believed in putting Africa first – in the design of the products, the creation of the team and the distribution channels. Today, Kenya has become one of their biggest consumer markets and they have four stores in Nairobi alone. The brand has evolved from its original muted tones with 'safari-fashion' appeal to become a blend of African culture and global trends. Their 2014 collection, shown at Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week Africa, is a walk through one of the most emblematic neighbourhoods in Rwanda, Nyamijyosi. Boxy silhouettes, hand-painted slogan sweaters, colourful street-art motifs, sporty fabrics and splashes of suede and metallics offer a modern yet distinctly made-in-Africa collection. For Cuatrecasas, 'Moving away from African fabric was an important step... Fashion in Africa is evolving. It can't just be fitted into that box. The consumer wants more.'

But meeting new demands doesn't mean neglecting ethical responsibility behind the supply chain. Last November, the pair handed over their atelier in Kigali and today, their Rwandan team fully owns the workshop, which has become the best in the region. 'Mille Collines designs for the woman who is not afraid of a world that is ever-changing, is brave and boldly expresses who she is: Africa lives in her,' says Cuatrecasas.



@mille_collines



ELLEMPOWERED

KATHERINE-MARY PICHULIK, BRAVE WOMEN

Jeweller Katherine-Mary Pichulik's *Brave Women* series is an archive of intimate portraits - stills and video - of some of the women who wear her accessories. Pichulik sees her pieces as talismans in a community of brave women she wants to document - women who can inspire others with their sensitive stories, and can promote the concept of freedom of choice and fulfilling potential. 'These women create, make and do in spite of all their fears. They don't talk the ideas; they manifest them with added charm, wit and deliciousness,' she says.

One of these women is Talia Sanhewe, an award-winning reporter who has worked for CNBC Africa, CNN International and *Forbes* Africa. She won the Vodacom Journalist of the Year in the television news category for her piece on HIV/ Aids prevention through social entrepreneurship. Pichulik met Sanhewe at her Businesswoman of South Africa finalist interview, where Sanhewe was one of the judges. Her story was rich with compassion, courage, vulnerability and authenticity, and Pichulik recognised her as a Brave Woman. For Pichulik, who founded

her brand two-and-a-half years ago, bravery means acting from your authentic self, with a disregard for other people's opinions and assumptions, and it is this she hopes to instill in others.



🐦 @Pichulik



BRAVERY MEANS ACTING
FROM YOUR AUTHENTIC SELF,
WITH A DISREGARD FOR OTHER
PEOPLE'S OPINIONS

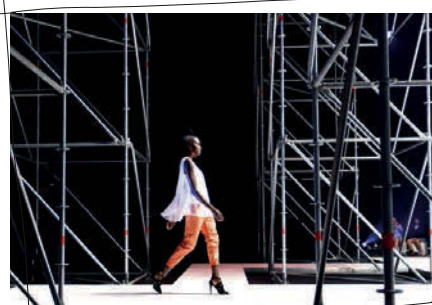
ALLANA FINLEY, GOODBYE MALARIA

Hailing from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Allana Finley has an extensive background in the fashion industry. Before making South Africa her home, Finley interned at Donna Karan in New York during her university days; from there she went on to hone her craft as a fashion stylist, focusing on product placement and the marketing of fashion brands through celebrity client relationships while working for the likes of Oxygen Media, Eileen Fisher, Tiffany & Co and Gucci America.

For the past 14 years Finley has been focused on telling the story of the African continent in innovative ways while consulting for companies like CNN, Stoned Cherrie and African Fashion International. Her passion for the continent has brought her to work on the Goodbye Malaria initiative. Started by a group of African entrepreneurs with the belief that African creativity can solve one of Africa's biggest problems, Goodbye Malaria seeks to inspire people to join the fight against malaria - the leading killer of children under five in Africa - by educating them that elimination is ultimately possible.

The funds raised through Goodbye Malaria's product range, which consists of shweshwe lounge pants, Relate bracelets and Mashozi teddy bears, are used for on-the-ground malaria elimination programmes in Boane province, Mozambique. The programme has seen a reduction in the incidence of malaria of more than 60 percent.

'In Africa, fashion has the power to feed [people] and improve lives. I am committed to making sure that I am living proof of that,' she says. She sees her choice to work with Goodbye Malaria and holding company Sonhos Social Capital as a chance to show the world that fashion can be used to address social ills while creating job opportunities, supporting local industry and producing world-class merchandise.



🐦 @adfinley



JACKIE BURGER, SALON 58

Former editor of ELLE, Jackie Burger started Salon 58 as a space to embrace and empower women through regular soirées. In the spirit of France's salonnieres, Burger also holds personal style consultations to help build a woman's self expression and sense of identity.

'We underwrite the value of "girls compete with each other; women empower one another",' says Burger. 'My commitment to women is to be a close ally and a supportive companion as we explore and unlock the allure and true understanding of what it means to be a woman in today's challenging and demanding society.' She embraces the statement that it's the woman who wears the dress, not the dress that wears the woman. In an unforgiving world where we are constantly under pressure to be perfectly 'put together', she zones in on the authentic needs of a woman, helping her to recognise her self-worth and confidence, and working out how this can be translated in a personal style that truly reflects her sense of self.

On the other hand, at the core of Salon 58 is the will to empower local creatives by showcasing talent at her regular soirées. Each event will see a bevy of local artists participating in and translating the content of the event. 'Creativity is a powerful cultural asset stimulating the future of a design-based economy. Conversation, collaboration and creativity spur a mindset of community and empowerment.'

Salon 58 aims to focus on cultivating an appreciation for beautiful fabrics, quality tailoring and the joy of understanding just how to wear it well.

AT THE CORE OF SALON 58
IS THE WILL TO EMPOWER
LOCAL CREATIVES BY SHOWCASING
TALENT

 @Jackie_Burger_



PHOTOGRAPHS: NIQUITA BENTO, SDR PHOTO, TOMMASO FISCALETTI, AMY SCHEPERS, DAVID DINI, FASHIONREVOLUTION.ORG, KOPE | FIGGINS

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@Lalesso_

LALESSO, FASHION REVOLUTION

Alice Heusser and Oliva Kennaway are the co-creators and directors of Lalesso, a brand founded upon a commitment to ethics and sustainability on a social and environmental level. They believe in supporting local industry through manufacture of Lalesso products while encouraging their client base to be aware of sustainably made clothing.

Heusser and Kennaway met while studying fashion design in Cape Town. When a representative of the Ethical Fashion Forum from London gave a talk in one of their classes about the importance of ethical fashion, they were

captivated. They were inspired by the opportunity to bring change to certain industries on the continent, create jobs and spread the message globally through their garments. Lalesso currently produces two collections a year in both South Africa and Kenya, directly and indirectly supporting an estimated 120 families in doing so.

Like many others around the world, the two took part in Fashion Revolution Day last year, commemorating the collapse in 2013 of Rana Plaza in Bangladesh, where 1 133 factory workers were killed. More than 60 countries are currently represented in the now-annual initiative, involving designers, academics, business leaders, parliamentarians, media and consumers calling for a reform of the fashion supply chain.

Locally they are trying to make consumers aware of the high cost of cheap fashion. With the catch phrase, 'Who made my clothes?' they ask consumers to consider this question. 'I think it is safe to say we are living in a revolutionary era. I feel that our generation in particular will be recognised for these movements. I think it would be completely uncharacteristic of us to not be promoting ethics and sustainability through the work that we do,' says Kennaway.



MARIANNE FASSLER, LEOPARD FROCK

Marianne Fassler is regarded as one of South Africa's first ladies in fashion. She credits the country itself as the driving force behind her successful career, which spans more than three decades. 'I always encourage potential designers to start in their own community, to know the service providers,' she says. Fassler is an active member of the Ubuntu at Work community, a social enterprise supplying ethically and sustainably produced products. Although she is 'against co-operatives selling themselves on the strength of "upliftment", or sympathy for the unemployed', her fundamental values lie in ethical business practice. Through her Leopard Frock range, she provides stable employment for a highly skilled workforce as well as mentorship to aspiring designers.

Fassler's signature use of fabric continually acknowledges the country's cultural heritage and pushes the boundaries of fashion design. 'I have always recycled fabrics, allowing my scraps to inform the shape and texture of my garments,' she notes. Fascinated by the way people engineer wearable art using waste, she harnesses skills unknown to the mainstream for her runway collections. She once worked with a group of Zulu craftsmen who manufactured shoes for traditional ceremonies and weddings. Together, they created beautiful sandals using car tyres and animal hides.

Her hopes for 2015? 'To continue being relevant and active in the South African clothing industry. This includes providing employment to all the great people who work for me.' □

@Leopardfrock



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for an interview
with Christie Brown's
Aisha Ayensu

ELLE **FIRST LOOK**

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CLOSET confidential

TARRYN OPPEL



22

JACKETS

9

PAIRS OF SUNGLASSES



5

WATCHES



BAGS



She is the young *woman behind* some of ELLE South Africa's most imaginative *photo shoots*. Here, *Tarryn Oppel* opens the doors of her own, enviable closet



'FASHION IS AN EVER-CHANGING WHIRLWIND OF POSSIBILITY

ELLE **FIRST LOOK**

'If my life was a book, I would like it to be called *As Simple as a Smile; as Loud as a Laugh*,' says Tarryn Oppel as she places in front of her some of her wardrobe favourites: a leather biker jacket by Mango, a pair of Stan Smiths, a V-neck jersey and a slogan jersey by H&M and a Louis Vuitton Speedy bag with T.O on it. 'This is the one item that I am still pinching myself over! It is that one thing that you'd pass down to your daughter, and her daughter... It's very special.'

If there were a way to label the young senior fashion editor's style, it would have to fall somewhere between contrasted simplicity and sophisticated pop. If you had to describe her personality, it would be something between a gentle smile and a spurt of laughter, a layer of coolness covering a composite of delicate expressions of emotions, bursts of talent, wild creativity and an ability to think fast on her feet.

Page through her fashion shoots and you will see the same contrasts: here, the refinement of simplicity and minimalism, there, the exuberance of youth or the precise clash of bright colours and prints. Oppel manages to swing between influences, trends and seasons with the agility of a cat. Her style involves strong, reliable and effective pieces that allow her to go from important launches to long days of shooting (she's been known to be on her knees, removing the sand off a model's shoes on a remote beach). 'I realised that I was someone who wanted to stand out but not let my clothes do all the work. It's important for me to exist in spite of my clothes, to be more than what I wear; if I can do that while looking sophisticated and chic, then so much the better.'

Her daily outfits shift between classic neutrals (she's just bought a beautiful sleeveless wool coat from Country Road that she cannot wait to wear when the temperatures drop), composed prints and zests of vibrant colours, hair simply tucked up or loose on her shoulders, a light touch of make up, nothing in excess.

But excess is not in Oppel's vocabulary, nor is it in her wardrobe, except when it comes to footwear. A self-confessed shoe-hoarder, she explains that, 'When it comes to shoes, I struggle with size (I wear a UK 3), so if I see something with either the digits 36 or 3 on it, I buy it because they're such rare finds.' With 70 pairs in her wardrobe ranging from high heels (her favourite is a pair of ankle strap heels from Zara) to sneakers – 'I have a sneaker obsession'

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for Tarryn's 5-day
style diary



PAIRS OF SHOES



– there is no doubt that she needs space to store them all. 'I have a separate, easy-access cupboard for my shoes, but they have kind of made their way pretty much everywhere else in my room (it might be time for a closet clean-out).'

Oppel joined ELLE magazine as a fashion intern working with Chris Viljoen, Sharon Becker and Poppy Evans in November 2009. 'I loved watching them style and discuss pages of the magazine; I enjoyed sourcing beautiful pieces that suited their shoot concepts. I wanted to be involved in everything!' she says. Five-and-a-half years later, she oversees the magazine's fashion direction, and month after month inspires readers through her fashion spreads.

Yet, she is careful to note, 'There is no true formula for a successful wardrobe. You have the power over what you wear; find what actually works for you. My way to make it work? I make sure that I have a good balance of classic pieces combined with my love for sneakers and slogan sweaters.'

Sitting in her favourite leather jacket and blue ripped jeans, a soft smile lighting up her face, she remembers a piece of advice she once gave: 'Fashion is an ever-changing whirlwind of possibility and a playground for personality. Smile. It completes your outfit.' □

AND A PLAYGROUND FOR PERSONALITY. SMILE. IT COMPLETES YOUR OUTFIT'

THE BIG FASHION SHOW

by JEAN-PAUL GOUDE

What happens when two creative talents collide? *Magic happens.* In this worldwide exclusive, *ELLE* goes 'backstage' at the Spring/Summer 2015 show with Louis Vuitton artistic director *Nicolas Ghesquière* and his *mentor* and photographic genius, *Jean-Paul Goude*

'Hey, Nicolas, get on the model, she's late! It's already 5am!' 'Nicolas, look at your line-up and make sure everything's okay.' 'Nicolas, the show's about to begin. It's 10! Are the girls ready? Come on, let's go!'

Nicolas Ghesquière hops to every friendly but firm command made by Jean-Paul Goude, who is directing him on this ambitious shoot, where he has turned the frenetic ambience of backstage into a studio before the Spring/Summer 2015 fashion show.

It's the type of intimate yet lively scene favoured by this photographer, who loves to heighten the behind-the-scenes drama of the build-up, from early morning to show time. Make-up, hairstyling, who wears what. But here, there's no deadline stress. Everything is fake and the atmosphere is playful and laid-back.

Ghesquière is having fun and submitting to Goude's clever pranks. 'There's a before and after Jean-Paul in my life. He forged my sense of aesthetics as a teenager; it's an integral part of who I am. It's a dream come true that our visions and personalities have become one. It's truly a gift.'

In fact, it's like a one-year anniversary gift. One year ago, his debut show was a highly charged occasion, rife with speculation: what would Ghesquière's message be after 16 years under the reign of the charismatic Marc Jacobs? What would Ghesquière's voice

be after a year of silence following his departure from Balenciaga, where he had worked for 15 years? Well, the mood was clearly upbeat; blockbuster figures have just come in. A record number of magazine covers sported Vuitton fashions (90 in three months). Record-breaking popularity on social media, which is now the yardstick for measuring a brand's success, with 1.23 million likes of just 21 posts during the month of October.

'It's a good sign of recognition for my work,' says Ghesquière, 'and a real sign of kindness, too. I feel welcome.'

Ghesquière has remained faithful to his own personal slogan: 'Never forget that what is timeless today was at one time new.' This is illustrated by a collection of clothing that, while having a whiff of familiarity, conveys a captivating sense of novelty and pure creativity. 'At Vuitton,' he says, 'I want my work to seem like an "obvious" wardrobe, to come across as a familiar closet to which I can add a fashionable statement. I like authenticity – the emotional aspect that we bring to certain items. Taking our expertise to new levels is an unassailable sign of luxury. Vuitton endlessly ventures back and forth between the past and the expected future. I have a clear-cut objective. I'm asked to gain recognition and pave new ground, and I'm never criticised for repeating concepts from one collection to another, because you have to make your statement, develop a certain personality and remain faithful to it.'

He must also align his concepts with the founding vision of Louis Vuitton, who created his house in 1854. 'I'm very attuned to the personality of Louis Vuitton, who, like me, was a self-taught man. His creativity grew out of efforts to improve his trunks. His vision is unique and his solutions reflect a creative model that is his and his alone, which I find inspiring and touching.'

One solution was the 'petite malle', the bag introduced at the first show and often featured at subsequent shows, with slight changes. This small treasure chest was immediately singled out as a crave-worthy object of desire; barely one season after its debut, it had achieved the status of 'house classic'. Ghesquière says: 'I didn't see it as a smaller-sized version of a trunk, but as a modern fusion of iconic trunks. It's a question of scale. The "petite-malle" was designed in response to the scale of contemporary life. The idea is to maintain a consistent message into the 21st century.'

It's a self-assured Ghesquière, still driven by his unyielding determination, who is now beginning his second year at Vuitton. He says he feels comfortable at the fashion house. He notes that his sabbatical year gave him the strength to 'get his head straightened out'. It also gave him time to think about his aesthetic. 'I sat down – something I hadn't done since I joined Jean Paul Gaultier at the age of 18. That year taught me to organise my thoughts.' He took responsibility for 'this deadline job that requires your honesty and your heart and soul. You never have the right to say, "I don't know." And yet I've achieved something essential!' And what is that? 'Freedom of thought.'

photography JEAN-PAUL GOUDE
starring NICOLAS GHESQUIÈRE
wardrobe LOUIS VUITTON
styling ANNE-MARIE CURTIS
words ELIZABETH CHAUSSEUIL

MODELS: EMMA RAPPE (IMG), ANGEL (THE LIONS), DAPHNE SIMONS (NEXT), AWALIE SCHMIDT (OU), SORA CHOI (EVIDENCE), MICA ARGANARZA (VIVA), MAGDALENA JASEK (OU), ANNE LARRES (WARYNY), EMILIE FOUILLOUX, JEAN-PAUL GOUDE, NICOLAS GHESQUIÈRE, MARIE-AMÉLIE SALVÉ, FLORENT BUONOVANO, CAMILLE MICELI, JANE WHITEFIELD, NATACHA RAMSAY LEVI / HAR: PAUL HANION OF JULIAN WATSON / MAKE-UP: DUNJA SCHULTE OF BAGENCY / PROJECT MANAGER: CHARLOTTE DEFFE



Amalie wears:
AW14/15 printed sweater
Dora soft striped bag
Dora soft canvas bag
Taiga Moon Besace

Angel wears:
Silk crêpe panties & bra
Dora Souple bag
Denim patchwork high boots



LOUIS VUITTON

SPRING / SUMMER 2015



Magdalena wears:
Silk crêpe panties & bra
Dora canvas soft bag
Eel leather half-boots

Angel wears:
Statue embroidered dress
Silk crêpe panties & bra
Eel leather half-boots
Pop chips earrings
Paul Goude Mini V chain ear cuff



Daphne wears:
Silk crêpe panties & bra
Dora crocodile bag
Glazed & metallic calf leather
ankle boots



Model wears:
Animal wallpaper quilted
velvet jacket & cropped pants
Eel leather half-boots
Louis Vuitton hand jewel



Mica wears:
'Ostrich' eel jacket
Velvet cropped pants
Quilted velvet bra
Pop chips earrings
Crocodile 'Petite Malle'

Daphne wears:
Romantic jersey dress
Pop chips earrings
Paul Goude Mini V chain ear cuff
Eel leather high boots
Dora striped sport soft bag

Magdalena wears:
Silk smock & eel dress
Twist Epi Denim bag
Denim patchwork half-boots
Pop chips earrings
Paul Goude Mini V chain ear cuff



Mae wears:
Embroidered crochet blouse
Bi-colour striped eel skirt
Aged 'G-014' bag
Pop chips earrings
Eel leather high boots

Emmy wears:
Rachel knit top
Bi-colour striped eel skirt
Embroidered crochet jacket
Eel leather half-boots
Crocodile twist bag

Angel wears:
Embroidered crochet dress
Gabardine Chelsea jacket
Pop chips earrings
Eel leather half-boots
Crocodile twist bag



Amalie wears:
Embroidered crochet dress
Pop chips earrings
Twist Epi Denim bag
Paul Goude eel leather half-boots

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p78 COVER STAR p82 IN HER JEANS p92 WHISPER p100 HEY JUDE

ELLE FASHION

HERE AND NOW

*Days of denim are
extended, and so is
the hand of the past.
Fashion is wherever
we want it to be, even
if it's somewhere
simple*



Tassel jacket, R32 250, Tart; jeans, R1 199, Guess

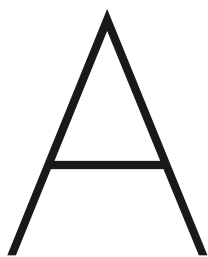
NOW FOR NYKHOR

FROM WALKING AT PARIS FASHION WEEK TO SHINING A LIGHT ON SOUTH SUDAN, NYKHOR PAUL IS MAKING AN IMPACT, ONE PHOTO SHOOT AT A TIME

words NICOLE NEWMAN

fashion TARRYN OPPEL

photographs KOPE | FIGGINS



As she stands in front of the blue backdrop, striking poses with each click of the camera, moving to the beat of the music pumping in the background, it's hard to imagine that for the first 10 years of her life, Nykhor Paul grew up with no reference to the life she now leads. As she introduces herself to me, her smile and her eyes hint at something powerful beneath her composed demeanour. This tall South Sudanese model has a story and, slowly but surely, I start to uncover the tale of the hard-working woman, humanitarian and mentor beneath the model poise. Nykhor may be ruling the international runways now, walking for Balenciaga and closing for John Galliano, but this life is worlds away from where she comes from.

Born in Akobo in South Sudan, Nykhor grew up while the second South Sudanese civil war was raging, fuelled (like the first, in 1962) by religious disputes and inter-tribal violence. In 1995, she and her family, members of the Nuer tribe, moved to Pinyudo refugee camp in Ethiopia. Nykhor vividly remembers the details: the overcrowding, the scarcity of food and the lack of communication with the world beyond the camps.

In 1998 Nykhor's world changed forever. She was sent to live in America with her aunt and young cousin along with her uncle, who had arranged their departure through the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR), a programme that helps house and shelter refugees.

They settled in Nebraska, along with many other South Sudanese refugees. The move was tough on her: relocating to a new country, being separated from her parents, and being unable to speak the language.

And America was nothing like Nykhor could have imagined. 'The culture was very different – I'm a village girl, literally from the jungle, I didn't have shoes, didn't see TV, never saw a photograph, didn't have a toilet, I lived in a hut house. We were freaked out by everything. Until then I had only slept on the floor. [Americans] showed us lots of things – how to drive, how to operate a stove, what kind of food we were going to eat... They introduced us little by little to Western culture.'

After two years in her uncle's home, she spent the rest of her adolescence in foster homes. She is reluctant to go into detail about that time – its drawbacks and difficulties. Instead she talks about how she participated in sport, making a life for herself outside of the homes – volleyball and basketball being the obvious favourites, thanks to her height. She also took ESL (English second language) courses to master the new medium.

Her teachers at the ESL classes pushed her to enter modelling contests and pageants. 'I've always been a tall kid,

I don't know how to be short!' she laughs. But it was only after her first year at Doane College in Nebraska that she decided to take up modelling full time, as studying and working to support herself and her family was no longer a practical option.

'I saw the window of opportunity and knew I had to make it work. I liked it because I saw that there was plenty that you could do with modelling. Whether or not you're a supermodel, you have the opportunity to develop your voice and use modelling as a platform. And you realise you can change so many things if you use it the right way.'

As her modelling career took off in America, Nykhor saw the opportunity to use fashion as a means to benefit her people back in South Sudan. She started her campaign, *We are Nilotic* – people of the Nile River, which incorporates many different tribes along its 6 700km length – as war broke out again in South Sudan in 2013.

'I saw that there were many models from South Sudan who were refugees like myself. Some had been separated from their families. Others had lost their families. I wanted to bring these girls from the 64 tribes of South Sudan together in order to shed light and tell the world about the war.'

After recruiting 10 girls, Nykhor decided the best way they could share their stories was through art, film and fashion. 'I arranged an exhibition in April 2014 at the Tribeca film festival in New York. There were at least 15 South Sudanese models, film-makers and actors there. I wanted to start off with the best-known South Sudanese people, as they already had a strong following. They had people's attention.'

Nykhor flew South Sudanese girls from Canada, Minnesota and Nebraska to document their stories. 'My aim was to show that we are one people and that instead of fighting against different tribes we must look at each other and see that we are having the same experiences. In the West (America) no one cares if I'm from the Nuer or Dinka tribe. We need to form a union and a sisterhood, and show people in South Sudan that if we can become brothers and sisters outside, they can do it inside too.'

In August last year, Nykhor returned to see her family for the first time in 17 years. They still live in Pinyudo, which has become a more or less permanent home for thousands of refugees. There, she notes with concern and frustration, almost nothing has changed. But she was joyfully reunited with her parents and, while there, filmed girls of all ages in the camp in an effort to highlight what improvements need to be made – and how she can help.



'My dream is to set up ways of making the refugees self-sufficient,' she says. 'They need to learn how to help themselves. I want to teach the women about self-empowerment, because that's the journey that I have been on. As the eldest daughter in my family, there was a fate that was set out for me: I would have had an arranged marriage and I would have continued living in the camp, but I changed my course and rewrote my story.'

And that she has certainly done. Today, she's a top model who is turning her career into a vocation; her initiative won her a Humanitarian award nomination at the Model Awards in 2014. She's full of purpose, dedication and determination.

What lies ahead? Having just given up her rental in Harlem, New York City, she is hoping to make South Africa her new home.

Whether on the runways, airwaves or our televisions, one thing is certain: Nykhor is making her voice heard – and, yes, we are listening. □

Sheer-and-denim coat, R9 500, Marianne Fassler



GO ONLINE
for behind-the-scenes pics



IN HER JEANS

Cool enough for every style personality, in a world of versatility – wear your denim your way

FASHION TARRYN OPPEL
PHOTOGRAPHY KOPE | FIGGINS



Knit, R999, Guess; striped top, R2 199, Diesel; 'mom' jeans, R779, Topshop; men's denim loafers, R9 200, Louis Vuitton

OPPOSITE

Cable knit jacket, R7 395, Paul Smith; denim jacket, R1 249, Topshop; cropped light wash jeans, R2 999, Calvin Klein; pony hair boots, R1 299, Topshop



Denim jacket, R779, River
Island; sequined top, R5 299,
Laurence Dolige at Studio 8;
mesh and denim pants,
R5 200*, Marianne Fassler



Faux-fur jacket, R3 999,
Scotch & Soda; boyfriend jeans,
R499, R.E at Woolworths; men's
studded loafers, R6 499, Diesel



Wire appliqué dress, R2 600,
Akedo; cropped flared jeans,
R759, and heels, R759, both Zara

OPPOSITE
Denim boiler suit, R4 999, Tiger
of Sweden; boots, R1 499, Zara






Men's denim jacket, R899, Levi's; side-slit tunic, R1 590, and pants, R1 120, both Akedo; men's denim loafers, R9 200, Louis Vuitton

OPPOSITE
Boxy chambray shirt, R559, Zara; wool skirt, R3 900, Tamara Chérie; boots, R1 599, Aldo





Neoprene jacket, R8 800,
Michael Maven; neoprene
and denim pants, R2 600,
Replay

OPPOSITE
Distressed denim shirt,
R3 250, Paige; leather
and denim pants, R2 295,
Hugo Boss



PHOTOGRAPHS: KOPE | FIGGINS AT ONE LEAGUE / SENIOR FASHION EDITOR: TARRYN OPPEL / MAKE-UP: KELLY PAITAKI AT GLOSS ARTIST
MANAGEMENT / JUNIOR FASHION EDITOR: NICOLE NEWMAN / FASHION INTERN: MICHELLE VAN DER WESTHUIZEN / MODEL: NYKHOR AT
20 MODEL MANAGEMENT / * MADE TO ORDER, EXCL. VAT



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for behind-the-scenes pics



WHISPER

*It doesn't shout for attention.
It's perfectly quiet –
a forever style that needs no siren
to make a statement*

fashion TARRYN OPPEL

photography JUSTIN POLKEY

OPPOSITE
DRESS, R8 000, MICHAEL MAVEN

TUXEDO DRESS, R2 690, TART; LOAFERS,
R1 266, TRENERY

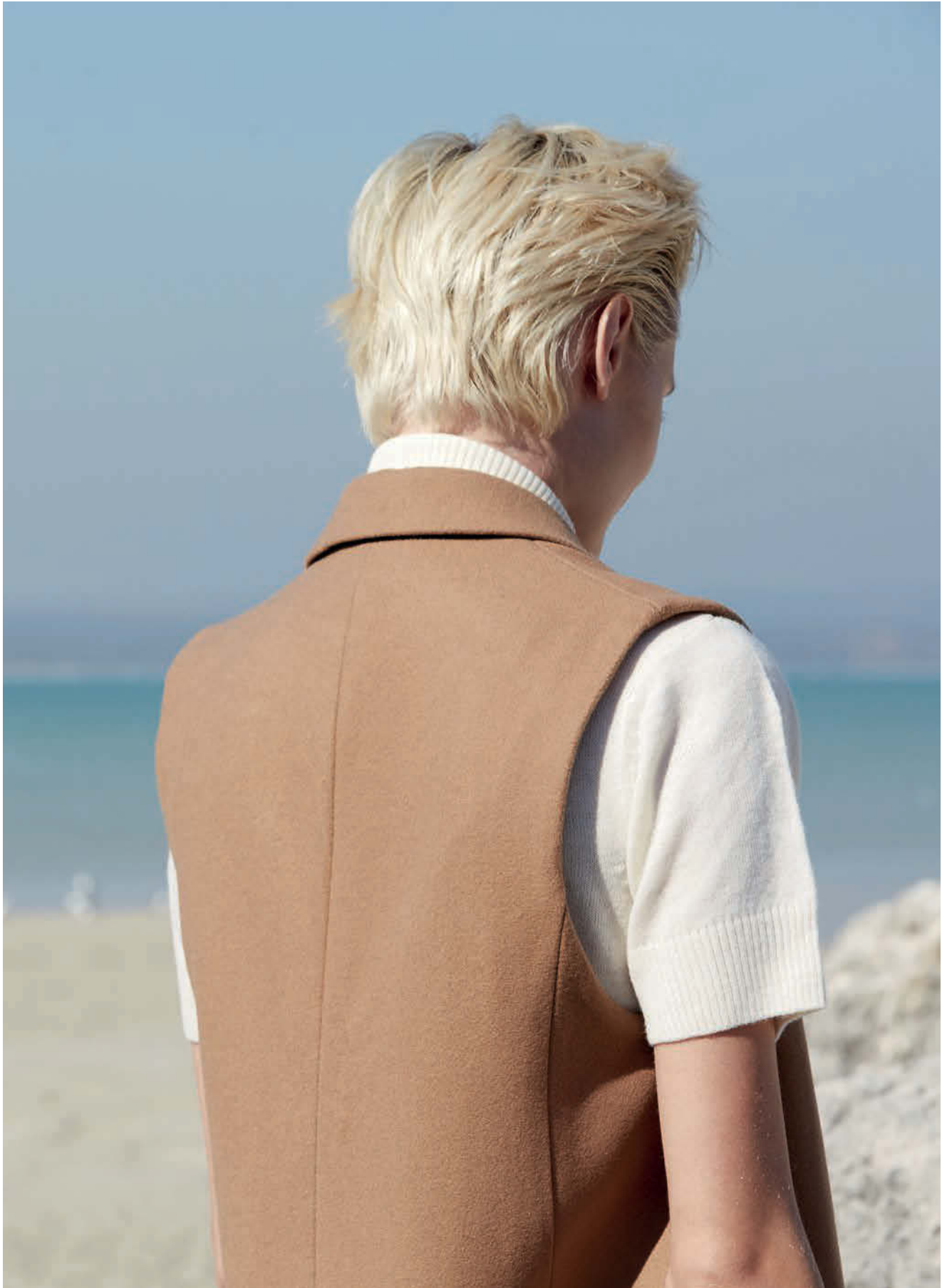


A full-page fashion advertisement featuring a woman walking across a vast, sandy beach towards the ocean. The woman is wearing a dark, oversized jacket, a black crop top, dark trousers, and black sandals. The background shows a calm blue sea meeting a hazy, distant shoreline under a clear sky. The text is centered in the upper half of the image.

JACKET, R1 599, TOPSHOP; TOP, R2 499, TIGER OF SWEDEN; PANTS, R8 390, BURBERRY; SANDALS, R579, FOREVER 21

OPPOSITE

SLEEVELESS BLAZER, R1 399, MANGO; TURTLENECK, R500, DEFINE AT STUTTAFORDS







SHIRT, R4 400, MICHAEL MAVEN; PANTS, R1 299, JENNI BUTTON;
LOAFERS, R1 299, TRENERV

OPPOSITE
DRESS, R19 800, MICHAEL MAVEN; BOOTS, R4 999,
TIGER OF SWEDEN



PHOTOGRAPHS: JUSTIN POKEY AT INFIDELS / PHOTOGRAPHER'S ASSISTANT: NIEL DANVERS DYLAN MORRIS / SENIOR FASHION EDITOR:
TARRYN OPPEL / HAIR: ALET WILJOEN C/O SNCM / MAKE-UP: KELLY PATAKI AT GLOSS / FASHION INTERN: MICHELLE VAN DER WESTHUIZEN /
MODEL: LINNEA AT VISON

SLEEVELESS COAT, R7 800, TAMARA CHÉRIE; PANTS, R1 599, JIGSAW, LOAFERS, R659, ZARA

OPPOSITE

COAT, R4 699, SCOTCH & SODA; TURTLENECK, R559, TOPSHOP; LEGGINGS, R499, RIVER ISLAND; BOOTS, R1 699, MIMCO



GO ONLINE

*for the behind-the-scenes
video*



Saga wears: knit, R1 799, Jigsaw; skirt, R649, River Island; necklace, R1 350, Kaika Jewellery
Elen wears: bolero, R3 192, Gavin Rajah; skirt, R1 199, Zara

OPPOSITE

Jacket, R829, Topshop; jeans, R2 600, Gerard Darel; boots, R659, Zara

fashion NICOLE NEWMAN

photography RICARDO SIMAL



HEY

JUDE

soft and sensual,
she's a carefree woman,

remember to let her into
your heart





Jacket, R22 000, Jenni Button; denim shirt, R2 599, Tiger of Sweden; skirt, R799, River island; trunk clutch, R68 000, Louis Vuitton

OPPOSITE

Elen wears: tasselled jacket, R3 999, Zara; dress, R1 599, Mari and Me; boots, R659, Zara

Saga wears: dress, R1 599, Mari and Me; long-sleeved top, R269, Topshop; lock necklace, R1 519, Swarovski at Spilhaus; boots, R1 799, Zara





Dress, R2 000, Shana Morland; boots, R1 499, Zara

OPPOSITE

Poncho, R2 499, Country Road; skirt, R5 016,
Gavin Rajah





Bolero, R1 599, Witchery; shirt, R759, Zara; skirt, R5 299, Tiger of Sweden

OPPOSITE

Leather jacket, R3 800, Nicci Boutique; bodysuit, R1 596, Gavin Rajah; skirt, R559, and boots, R1 399, both Zara





Saga wears: knit, R699, Mango
Elen wears: top, R399, Zara

OPPOSITE

Leather jacket, R10 500, Paul Smith; tassel skirt, R22 000, Jenni Button



PHOTOGRAPHS: RICARDO SIMAL / PHOTOGRAPHER'S ASSISTANT: LUKE HOUBA / HAIR: KEVIN EPSTEIN USING NATURALWENTE / MAKE-UP: SHAHNAZ COJA WRENSCH AT SNCW USING DERMALOGICA / JUNIOR FASHION EDITOR: NICOLE NEWMAN / SENIOR FASHION EDITOR: TARRYN OPEL / FASHION INTERN: BOITLO CHABABA / MODELS: SAGA AT BOSS AND EEN AT FULL CIRCLE

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for the
behind-the-scenes video

COMPETITION

ELLE

WIN

ONE OF 28
CLARINS SKINCARE
HAMPERS VALUED
AT R1 925 EACH!



You could be one of 28 lucky readers to win a Clarins daily duo hamper valued at R1 925. Each hamper consists of a Double Serum Complete Age Control Concentrate, Multi-Active Day Early Wrinkle Correction Cream and Multi-Active Night Youth Recovery Cream

The powerful secret agent is the Double Serum. Highly concentrated in active ingredients, it completes your day and night treatments, boosting their efficiency. Of women interviewed, 87% said that Double Serum boosted the effectiveness of skincare products applied afterwards.* Enter our competition, and you could WIN this life-changing hamper from Clarins.

* Satisfaction test – 95 women – 4 weeks.

TO ENTER SMS 'ELLECLARINS' followed by your full name and physical and email address to 34975.

Each SMS costs R1.50. Entries close on 31 May 2015. For full terms and conditions, turn to Address Book.

p112 BACKSTAGE CONFIDENTIAL p124 BEST BUYS p128 GETTING RACE-FIT

ELLE BEAUTY



WELL MATCHED

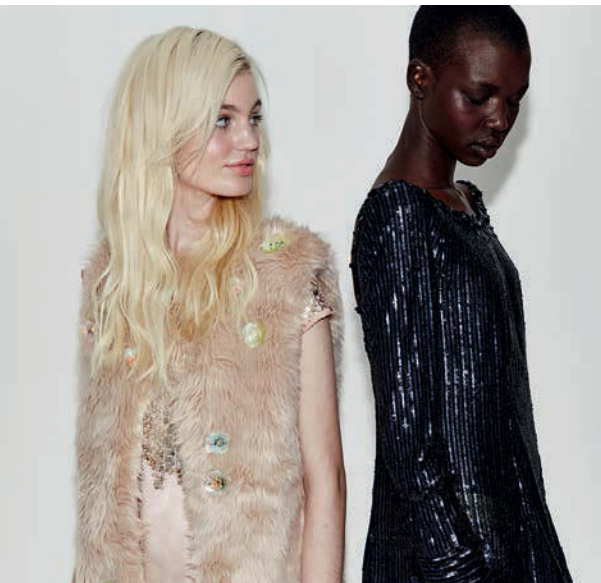
Come backstage to get inspired by our edit of the best international beauty trends translated locally, discover a new must-have scent, and find out the top products to buy now



BACKSTAGE
confidential

Take a walk with us into an imaginary backstage scenario, where the crème de la crème of international beauty trends combined with local fashion create a whole new flair. Why choose when you can have the best of both worlds?

by MAYBE CORPACI
photography ULRICH KNOBLAUCH



ROSY CHEEKS AND SOFT WAVES *in* SHANA MORLAND

Anoushka Waistcoat, R1 650; silk dress, R4 500
Nykhor Sequined dress, R2 800
Charissa Silk top, R2 100; sequined flare skirt, R1 950

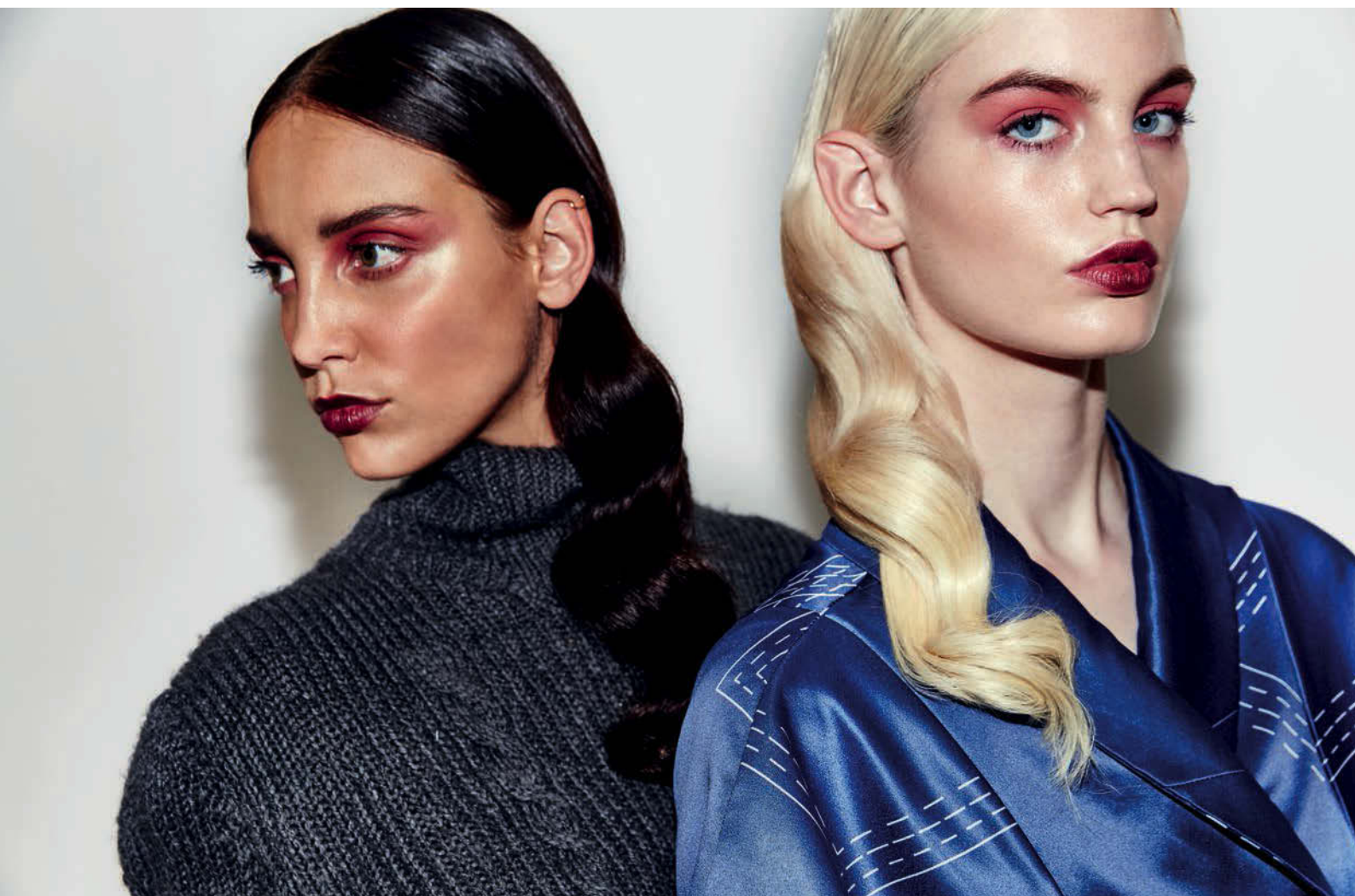
ELLE BEAUTY

POPPING EYES, PERFECTLY STAINED LIPS AND SLEEK HAIR *in* THEBE MAGUGU

Nykhor Dress, R1 200

Charissa Sweater, R900; skirt, R1 300; belt, stylist's own

Anoushka Coat, R2 300; clutch, R1 600





SERIOUSLY BOLD LINERS AND SCHOOLGIRL PLAITS *in* SAMANTHA CONSTABLE

Anoushka Jumper, R560; shirt, R380
Nykhor Sweater, R490; shirt, R380; peak, R240





OVER-THE-TOP LASHES, CRIMSON LIPS AND WISPY BALLERINA BUNS *in* TART

Nykhor Dress, R980; clutch, R855
Anoushka Tasselled jacket, R32 250
Charissa Silk scarf, R1 800, dress, R1 890, clutch, R955



CLEAN FACES AND SLEEK, LOW PONYTAILS *in* LUMIN

Charissa Coat, R3 200; shirt, R1 900; sunglasses, R269
Anoushka Top, R2 200; sunglasses, R4 170, Marc Jacobs
Nykhor Coat, R3 900; shirt, R950; sunglasses, R269





PLUM LIPS AND DEEP SIDE PARTINGS *in* AKEDO

Anoushka Dress, R2 600
Charissa Top, R2 100



DEWY SKIN AND WET TOP-KNOTS *in* SELF!

Anoushka Organza jacket, R1 100; polo-neck jumper, R580
Charissa Top, R780





CREAMY LIDS AND DOUBLE-TEXTURED HAIR *in* RICH MNISI

Nykhor Jacket, R1 750

Anoushka Wrap jacket, R1 050; cuff, R129, Jo Borkett

Charissa Parka, R1 390





METALLIC EYES AND LUXURIOUS LOCKS *in* DAVID TLALE

Nykhor Feathered organza top, R6 800
Charissa Dress, R16 000



PHOTOGRAPHS: ULRICH KNOBLAUCH AT SNOW / PHOTOGRAPHER'S ASSISTANTS: KATINKA BESTER, RUDI GEYSER, JESS SEGAL / MAKEUP: SHAHNAZ COJA WRENSCH AT SNOW USING DERWALOGICA / HAIR: ALET VILJOEN AT SNOW / MODELS: ANOUSHKA AT VISION, CHARISSA AT ICE MODEL MANAGEMENT AND NYKHOR AT 20XMODELMANAGEMENT / BEAUTY INTERNS: EEDEN LA GRANGE AND SARAH HILTON-BARBER

MISS DIOR

The New Feminism

Christian Dior's iconic fragrance Miss Dior remains the embodiment of new feminism and liberty

words TIDI BENBENISTI



When famed couturier Christian Dior unveiled his defining New Look in 1947, he not only revolutionised women's wardrobes, with a new, voluminous yet seductive silhouette, he also presented them with the ultimate style gift: his first eau in Miss Dior. He proclaimed that the fragrance, the epitome of luxury, would serve as the finishing touch to a dress — one of the reasons why he's regarded as a visionary.

But the fragrance was more than just a symbol of style and beauty; it was conceptualised with modern feminism

in mind, as inspired by his sister. Mademoiselle Catherine Dior was no ordinary woman. In 1944, as a member of the French Resistance, Catherine was arrested, tortured and imprisoned by the Nazis, until she was liberated in 1945. Despite the hardships she and many more suffered at the hands of the Nazis, Catherine returned to Paris a survivor

'MISS DIOR WAS, AND REMAINS, A CELEBRATION OF CONTRASTS:





and a heroine. Her defiance was celebrated with several medals, including the prestigious Légion d'Honneur. Two years later, her brother named his inaugural fragrance in her honour.

Its naming – Miss Dior – although innately chic, was serendipitous: while in his design studio in Avenue Montaigne, Dior and muse Mitzah Bricard received an unexpected visit from Catherine. Upon her entrance into the studio, Mitzah said: 'Voilà Miss Dior', and legend has it that the couturier said: 'Miss Dior, now there's a name for my perfume.' And an icon was born.

Defiant and determined, Miss Dior (both the inspiration and the fragrance) went on to symbolise liberty and heroism. Dior wanted to promote a new sense of self in post-war Europe – where possibilities were endless and fantasy and sensuality became a way of life. His design vision was to beautify and enrich women's lives through fashion and fragrance, and he expanded that fantasy to Hollywood, where the likes of Grace Kelly and Olivia de Havilland wore his designs.

The fragrance was considered revolutionary then, and that legacy continues today. Miss Dior was, and remains, a celebration of contrasts: youth and timelessness, free-spiritedness and sophistication, tradition and modernism. All these characteristics are evident in the reincarnation of the fragrance in its latest (and ultra-modern) campaign, starring longtime Christian Dior ambassador Natalie Portman.

In a video entitled *It's Miss, Actually*, celebrated Dutch director Anton Corbijn (*Control*, *A Man Most Wanted*, *The American*), presents Oscar-winning Portman as the unwilling bride edging closer to an unwelcome reality. As she walks hesitantly down the aisle, dressed in bespoke Dior, alongside her father, the story segues from colour to black and white, where the young bride listens to her intuition and frees herself. As she makes her way to the edge of the cliff (overlooking the picturesque Côte d'Azur) she sheds the layers of her old self (by removing the ethereal white gown) and reveals the newly liberated, all-grown-up woman that she has become (in a little black dress), as 'the one' sweeps her off her feet – in a modern touch – in a helicopter, with Janis Joplin's anthemic *Piece of My Heart* playing in the background.

Defiant, heroic and authentic, she is following her own path – much like the inspiration behind the original fragrance.

Voilà the Miss Dior in all of us. □



'THE FRAGRANCE WAS MORE THAN JUST A SYMBOL OF STYLE AND BEAUTY; IT WAS CONCEPTUALISED WITH MODERN FEMINISM IN MIND, AS INSPIRED BY HIS SISTER'



YOUTH AND TIMELESSNESS, FREE-SPIRITEDNESS AND SOPHISTICATION, TRADITION AND MODERNISM'

Best buys

New formulas, smouldering sombre shades, sensual scents and miracle hair products – here's our edit of autumn's best buys



Clarins Blush Prodiges Illuminating Cheek Colour in Tawny Pink, R360

Awaken your cheeks with a fresh and healthy glow. The silky texture, enhanced by mineral and plant extracts, ensures a long-lasting wear while leaving skin velvety and smooth.



Schwarzkopf BC Oil Miracle Barbary Fig Oil & Keratin Restorative Treatment, R240

An instantaneous illuminator that replenishes moisture in dry and damaged hair. This quick treatment won't weigh your mane down and will instead leave soft, strong and shining locks.



Maybelline Colorshow Eyeshadow in 08 Violet Vice, R69.95

This soft, blendable and highly pigmented shadow is bold and breathtaking – apply to the top lid and work it in to blend for unconventional smoky eyes.



007 For Her EdP, R580 for 75ml

Smell like a Bond girl with this mysterious, feminine scent. Hints of black pepper enveloped in Rose Milk ignite the sensual-dangerous paradox.



Crabtree & Evelyn Nail Lacquer in Pomegranate, R160

Give your nails a moody tone this winter with a shimmery, deep Bordeaux shade. This fast-drying varnish glides on smoothly for a gorgeous finish and opulent, sleek tips.



Estée Lauder Little Black Primer, R295

A little black dress for lashes? Here it is. This tinted primer can be used alone on bare lashes for a long-lasting natural finish, as a primer under mascara to max out the lash surface, or as a top coat to set the look and reduce smudging and flaking.



Elizabeth Arden Flawless Finish Perfectly Satin 24HR in 14 Caramel, R365

The climate-resistant formula withstands heat, humidity and moisture, ensuring a long-lasting matte effect. It not only covers all the bases, but includes SPF 15 to protect skin from harmful UV rays.



Bobbi Brown Face Touch-Up Palette, R520

Conceal, tone-correct, cover and finish skin with precision thanks to this new four-in-one Bobbi Brown palette. It has everything you need to ensure that on-the-go skin always looks its best.

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*to get the look:
winter grunge*

IF THIS
bottle

COULD TALK

WHO AM I?

From fashion to fragrance, each Privé scent is conceived with the same attention to detail that goes into creating a haute couture garment, and I am no exception. I am a celebration of the peony flower, a beloved symbol of the Chinese empire. Like a love rekindled, the peony is a flower that is 'reborn' every year, representing happiness, grace and prosperity.



“

THE BOTTLE

I am housed in the classic Les Eaux bottle. My lines are clean and transparent, offering a window to the golden crystalline fragrance within. Inspired by the perfect pebbles of a Zen garden, my stone-capped lid takes on a smooth and sculptural form, adding to my organic essence and feel.



Armani/Privé Pivoine Suzhou
EdT, R2 250 for 100ml

THE PRIVÉ WOMAN

A woman who embodies natural perfection, she is something out of the ordinary. She is a breath of fresh air with a love and appreciation for life. She carries herself with style and sophistication, while embracing her femininity to the fullest.

WHAT THE EXPERTS SAY...



'I have always been drawn to Asian aesthetics because of their rarefied elegance, pure lines and sophisticated use of colour. In particular, certain Chinese designs and use of materials have often inspired my collections.'
– Giorgio Armani



'Pivoine Suzhou is a floral textured, ultra-feminine, delicate fragrance with strong material content. It is a sophisticated fragrance offering a simple elegance, free of ostentation.'
– Julie Masse & Cecile Matton, Pivoine Suzhou perfumers



FAMILY CONNECTIONS

I have three twin sisters. We are all Zen masters at heart, conjuring mysterious gardens and fragrant dreams. Vétiver Babylone is cool, calm and collected with her untamed nature and earthy scents. Rose Alexandrie is delicate yet strong, as her powdery yellow mimosa absolu blends with the freshness of bergamot to give way to a rich, heady scent. Figuier Eden is the sweet and spirited sister, her fragrance of fig trees and lingering amber woods recreating a Mediterranean paradise.

NOTA BENE / ON THIS NOTE

Giving off a bouquet of emotions, my bright top notes of tangerine, pink pepper and raspberry burst with voluptuous freshness, while my ultra-feminine peony accord is intensified with May rose and rose essence. My seductive side emerges as I caress the skin with warm amber-like notes, bringing it all together with a hint of patchouli.

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Go online to see an exclusive interview with the Armani/Privé Pivoine Suzhou perfumers



Maybe Corpaci and Nicole Newman start their journey to (hairless) freedom with *laser hair-removal treatments*

1. IPL LASER REMOVAL AT LEGS ELEVEN, FROM R230 PER SESSION

Nicole Newman, Junior Fashion Editor

What is IPL? Intense Pulse Lighting is a form of permanent hair removal that works by means of controlled flashes of light. After your therapist has shaved the treatment area, a gel is applied. A handpiece is then positioned over the area and, with each pulse, light travels down your individual hair shaft and into its root – the heat destroys the follicle, preventing further growth. The treatment session ends with a cooling gel spread over the treated area.

Who can have it done? The latest IPL can be done on men and women on almost any part of the body and on all skin tones. However, as it targets the hair pigment, it doesn't work on red, grey or true blonde hair.

How long will it take? You will generally need between six and eight treatments over a period of 18 months to remove up to 90 percent of unwanted hair. At first, you'll require sessions every eight weeks, but as hair takes longer to reappear, sessions can be spaced further apart, at intervals of four months.

How should one prepare? I usually wax my underarms but when I went for my consultation, I was told not to wax, tweeze, thread, epilate or have electrolysis for at least four weeks before my first IPL treatment and in between treatments, as these methods pull the hair out of the root.

Hair needs to be present for the IPL laser to work. Don't worry – you can shave between treatments.

Results so far: I have had two sessions and the results are already noticeable. My underarm hair (which usually appears within two days after shaving) began to regrow only about four days after the treatment. The hair also seems to be sparser. I look forward to further positive results as I continue the treatment.

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GO ONLINE

for our edit of the best
laser salons

2. SOPRANO ICE LASER HAIR REMOVAL AT THE LASER BEAUTIQUE, FROM R510 PER SESSION

Maybe Corpaci, Junior Beauty Editor

What is Soprano Ice? The Soprano Ice method applies low-level energy via a burst of rapid pulses in constant motion on the treated area. The feeling during the treatment is a rise in temperature and a slight prickle on the skin. The denser the hair, the more intense the prickle becomes (it felt a little uncomfortable, but not unbearable). The laser device has a pleasantly cooling effect on the skin.

Who is it for? This type of laser is perfect for clients who like to expose skin to the sun between sessions, as well as for people with very sensitive skin and a low pain threshold. The treatment works on the basis of a gradual increase of energy, similar to a hot stone massage (but not quite as pleasant).

How long will it take? The average number of sessions for small areas is eight, but it depends on the area and on the individual. Treatments are booked every four weeks to allow new hair to grow out. The upside is that the treatment itself (when done on small areas) doesn't take more than 10 minutes.

How should one prepare? Shaving is the only method allowed on the treated area between treatments, but don't shave immediately before your consultation or first treatment, as your hair pigment and density need to be assessed. Also, moisturising, using essential oils or having a massage 24 hours before your treatment is a no-no, as any of these will leave oil on the surface of your skin.

Results so far: I'm three sessions in and the results are great. I've treated the little hair between my bosom. The treatment isn't painful and the sessions are super-quick, so you can fit them into your lunch break. □



Makeup that's
ready to commit.
Flawless matte finish
that lasts 24 hours.*

NEW

Flawless Finish
Perfectly Satin
24HR Makeup SPF 15

In shades for every
skintone with time-release
shine control.

*Based on a clinical study of 32 women by subject self-assessment
after 24 hours. ©2014 Elizabeth Arden, Inc.



Elizabeth Arden

NEW YORK

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WELLBEING

RACE- READY

Have you ever watched an athlete cycling, running or swimming a long-distance race and thought, 'I'd like to do that'? Signing up is just the start. Whatever the sport, a race requires serious levels of *commitment* and *determination*, *stamina* and *preparation*. Two women tell us about the *rigours of racing* ... and the *rewards*

HOLLY MEADOWS, ELLE ASSISTANT EDITOR DIGITAL, runs the San Francisco Women's Half Marathon

'I can't take a jot of merit for entering the San Francisco Women's Half Marathon. It was all done for me, after I was invited to run on behalf of ELLE and represent the Nike South Africa team. Some 18 months later and I haven't entered my lazy legs into a single running race since, but that tells me something... Half the journey of all of this marathon malarkey is getting your registration sorted. Setting yourself a goal, having the guts to put your name down and the courage to commit is one big feat not to scoff at.

After you've ticked the first box, it should all be method over matter. First step? Treat yourself to stylish new running kit, because no one wants to be that girl working out in a pair of battered old takkies minus a sports bra... Fitness has never looked more fashionable, with sports apparel seeing a major surge and the global market set to grow to \$178-billion by 2019. A new kit will boost your confidence and maximise your performance. Take the financial knock – a quality investment is key.

Once you have your fashionable foot forward, you follow a training plan. For a 21km race, a four-month programme of four days a week



is recommended, beginning with a 3km run and building up to 16km in the final month. A combination of easy runs (jogging while talking), hard running (150-plus pulse rate, no talking), time trials, hill relays and rest days will prep you to run a 21km with ease. That said, my training consisted of two months of haphazard running jaunts along the mountain, with an occasional 12km thrown in at the weekend. The result? Days of excruciating leg cramps and long hot baths to massage out the pain post-race. I learnt the hard way that if you don't train properly and prepare your muscles for the stress of a race, you'll suffer serious lactic acid build-up and your body will go into shock. In hindsight, my training might have been more successful had I joined a local run club, or found myself a partner to motivate, encourage and overcome hurdles with.

As anyone who's entered a race will tell you, the highlight has to be the overwhelming roadside cheering. Those times when you think your legs are going to buckle, or when your mind is fighting every urge to walk a little, it's the banners and the crowds and the constant shouts of encouragement that keep you going. At the San Francisco Women's Marathon it was all about the astounding strength of the female spirit coming together for a cause; some on a personal level, some to raise funds for a charity, and others to honour a loved one who had passed away. The sense of determination, willpower and energy passing among tens of thousands of women was utterly phenomenal and unexpectedly emotional. Running a marathon, or even a half, is something to be deeply proud of; a moment you will forever look back on with a happy heart and the knowledge that yes, you can do it.

LOUISE BIRKNER, ELLE BUSINESS MANAGER, braves the Cape Town Cycle Tour

'My overzealous spirit has completed the Cycle Tour many times, but physically I have never even climbed on a road bike or gone up Chapman's Peak, other than by driving a sporty cabriolet with my hair windswept and my entire self looking fabulous. The Cape Town Cycle Tour idea was birthed early in January 2015 and I soon realised that there was more to this race than met the unsuspecting eye. The preparation is immense, from acquiring a road bike to getting into a fitness and nutritional regime well ahead of time. Failure to plan properly will result in leaving the road with a safety vehicle or, even worse, in the back of an ambulance!

So what does one need to participate? A healthy dose of courage is a prerequisite, followed by a reliable bike, helmet and cleats, Camelbak, puncture kit and at least three months' training. A valid, detailed training programme and sensible diet are critical to ensure your body is refuelled as it starts preparing for the 109km ride. Phillippe van der Leeuw, head of Swimming at Waterborn, Brightwater in Randburg, created a five-week programme for me. The mileage increases weekly. Two weeks before the race, the training has to taper off; two days beforehand, your body must rest so as to be able to tackle the whole 109km. The intention is to have a good ride on one of the world's most beautiful scenic routes without hating every minute of it.

I personally had to do twice the work, as I began training late. I'd recommend that you start well ahead of time to build up your fitness levels. At the thought of not being ready, panic will set in, especially when you hit a couple of hills, and you will ask yourself why you even contemplated the race. Fitness is not achieved in one day and it takes dedication, but the rewarding feeling once the race is done is unmatched. Little treats such as a nice meal, a reflexology session or a favourite massage have been vital to keep me motivated and to even celebrate incremental milestones throughout the programme. My rule? Work hard and with commitment, but always be gentle to your body and know your boundaries.' □



GO TO ELLE.CO.ZA
Go online for more racing tales

RACING IN STYLE - #ELLEACTIVE

When personalised gear makes you cycle the extra kilometre... Louise Birkner and the ELLE Belles cycled the Tour 2015 fashionably kitted out in Enjoy Fitness gear.

For customised cycling gear, visit Enjoyfitness.co.za

TRAINING MADE EASY

Follow these tips to help you train for a race:

- * Start training at least three months before the race date
- * Ask a professional for a detailed fitness plan
- * Put together a playlist that keeps you pumped
- * Train with a friend - sharing the journey will strengthen your determination
- * Set realistic goals to overcome anxiety
- * Give yourself little rewards as you reach endurance goals



ELLE PARTY

CELEBRATING THE

ELLE BEAUTY AWARDS 2015

The annual ELLE Beauty Awards evening was an occasion of elegance at Joburg's Hyde Park Corner

Editor
Emilie Gambade

Lancôme's
Melissa Jarvis

Estée Lauder's Lulu Ndevu and Clinique's
Natasha Bennett taking a selfie

Jackie Ronaldson and
Alex Kitsandonis

Junior beauty editor
Maybe Corpaci

Maxwell Kungwimba for Dior

Guests and winners
toasted the night with
sparkling wine supplied
by M & Ahrens

The multitalented Smuts
Tenors serenaded the
guests

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for a full reportback
on the ELLE Beauty
Awards 2015

Liquidchef's mixed signature
ELLE cocktails

Lipidol's Zarah Riley

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THE LIFESTYLE



IN PRINT

*Blandat founder
Debby van der Veer's
Joburg home is a
celebration of print
and pattern*



THE patternmaker

Debby van der Veer uses pattern and print in her Joburg home with joyful abandon. She shares with us what makes style work for her

photographs VANESSA LEWIS

production LAUREN ROSSOUW



Left The living room is made up of 1970s furniture. The huge rounded fireplace reminds her of Ibiza and the African art is from the tribe where her husband was born
Below Debby's studio is decorated in her own wallpaper. Cow-hide rugs are scattered all over the house

'While attending art school in The Hague in the Netherlands, I learnt that I didn't want to be a lonely artist in a studio waiting to be discovered by the next gallery. So I did various jobs: working as an assistant stylist, a model, a television producer and an art director for a menswear label. I was always adapting to others' tastes and choices, never my own. Leaving that commercial setting, I pursued what I always wanted to do: drawing. Sitting still is not something that suits me, so I started to draw and figure out how I could make a statement as an illustrator in this part of the world. By starting my company Blandat, I began to produce illustrations, which translated as prints, on cloth and in fashion. I decided to create exclusive prints as an alternative to an African wax print.'

The 1970s are a huge influence on me: the colours, the designs and the shapes. They are soft, yet firm and bold.

My family and I all look at objects differently. We like a great Eames chair, but a kitsch painting can be equally pretty. I've sourced lots of my favourite things off the streets. Beauty can be in all kinds of design – I like the cheap stuff just as





'The pieces in our home were individually selected and all go together, yet at the same time nothing goes'



Debby's Dutch designer table (left) is surrounded by woven chairs from Ikea and on the table is a plate by Rembrandt, found at a market in Belgium. Her studio (above) is a showcase for her Blandat prints

much as the expensive. There are no real rules: the only important thing is that it needs a soul, a design, a life. It needs a story.

Our style is eclectic. It is a mix between '70s design and robot chic. The Starck gun lamp is a good example – it mixes edgy design and aesthetics while making a statement. The wallpaper in the dining table is another – a jungle with grenades from my own collection. The pieces in our home were individually selected and all go together, yet at the same time nothing goes; it's this clash that makes it interesting. I use the same principle in my prints – the bigger the clash, the more hysterical, the better.

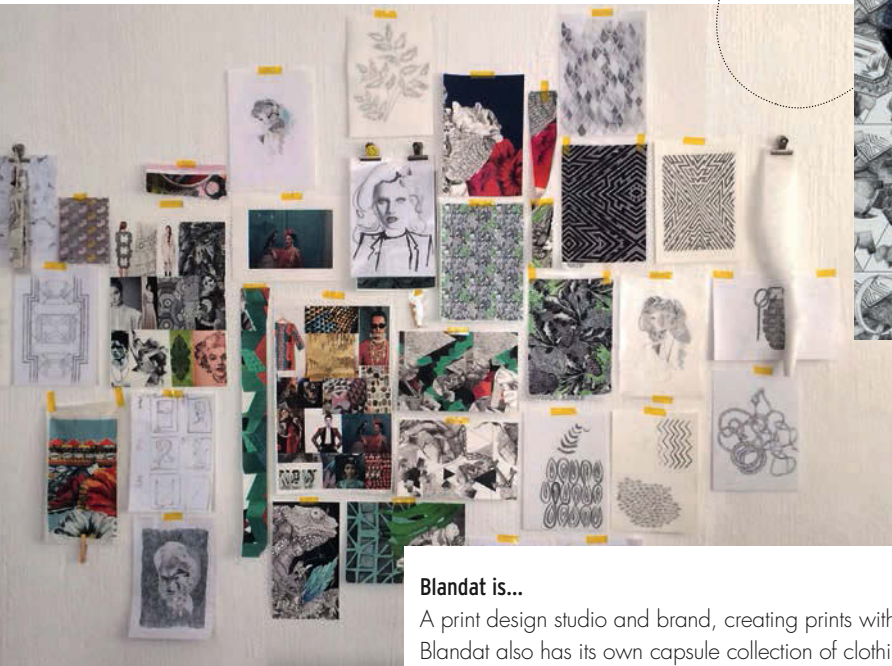
A love of the '70s is apparent throughout the house. The combination of browns with orange and turquoise is beautiful, with a splash of gold to make it more James Bond-ish. When I saw the house for the first time, I fell in love with the patterns in the tiles and bricks – it was the first house we saw in South Africa that had character, was original and had a soul.

The house ultimately inspired me to go one step further with Blandat, which was to expand into interior design. Translating my prints into a wallpaper collection in collaboration with designer Robin Sprong. I have the perfect backdrop for my collection of printed fabrics and garments.

At the moment I have a crush on ceramics. There are nice developments going on; the combination of ceramics and other materials is very interesting.

Digital printing is going to be the next big thing. Printing today is not limited to screen printing, so there are endless possibilities.'

MEET DEBBY VAN DER VEER



@mrsblandat

GO ONLINE
to see and shop Debby's
capsule collection



Blandat is...

A print design studio and brand, creating prints with a little edge. Blandat also has its own capsule collection of clothing.

What and who inspires your prints?

Nature is always a big inspiration and Africa as a continent is an inspiration bomb. There is plenty to draw from!

Where and how did you learn the art of illustrating?

At art school you learn many disciplines; there is no limit. I like making prints and developing products. I was always drawing as a kid. Art school teaches you to explore new boundaries and techniques, and to think 'out of the box'. Creating your own style and concepts never stops.

Tell us about your technique/s?

I draw and paint by hand, then I put everything together on the computer and create combinations and repetitions.

You are about to launch a capsule collection. What can we expect?

The collection will comprise chic basics but with simple shapes and oversized fits, all in Blandat printed fabrics or with printed appliqué and embroidered parts. A kimono dress, boxy tops, a tee dress, simple vests, an oversized straight coat and some accessories such as scarves.

Favourite item currently in your closet?

An oversized top with a dropped shoulder line. I like roomy fits and oversized coats.

On your fashion radar for 2015?

The wide, straight silhouette is something you can't ignore.

If you could dress one celebrity, who would it be?

I think it would be a woman like Erykah Badu. Strong and independent, she's not afraid of making a statement in any way. And she is a classic beauty...

Best piece of career advice ever given to you?

My husband told me to give up my job, believe in myself and start my own company. The best advice ever. Although it would have been easier to continue working for a boss, it wasn't satisfying. □

Blandat-studio.com



ZAN-ZI-BAR

Zan-zi-bar: the very name *evokes mystery*, intrigue and exotic adventure. *Stone Town* is where it simmers, says *Holly Meadows*, with its crumbling coral-rag palaces, winding, walled alleyways and history steeped in spices



Blessed with a sultry tropical climate, Zanzibar is a semi-autonomous state within Tanzania, consisting of two large islands, Unguja – Zanzibar Island – and Pemba. Clove and coconut plantations cover the interior of these Spice Islands. Pemba is laced with winding creeks and lush mangroves, while Zanzibar's coast is fringed by sun-baked beaches and sleepy fishing villages.

For many, the highlight of a stay on Zanzibar is the old Stone Town quarter – a maze of cobbled alleyways leading to ancient homesteads and mosques, ornate palaces and bustling bazaars. Each twist and turn brings something new – brass-studded doors with elaborately carved frames, overhung by ornate balconies and detailed minarets. Black-veiled Muslim women fry balls of dough on street corners, and the intoxicating sound of the muezzin call to prayer floods the air.

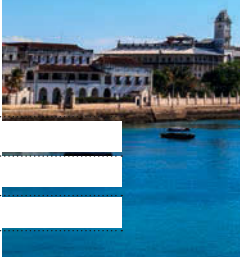


I would be lying if I told you it was as though time had stood still. The ancient trading hub of East Africa is now a relic of its former glory, and it's a crying shame that not more has been done to preserve this UNESCO World Heritage Site. But, there is charm in the cultural melting pot that remains – recessed Persian-style houses jostle with modern Afro clothing boutiques, a waterfront dotted with old Arabic dhows, rusting 1970s-style ferries, and an Italian-owned gelato shop.

WHEN TO GO Best time: the cooler spring months between August and October.

Avoid February to May when the weather is hot and humid, and the rainy season forces some hotels to close.

Note: During the fasting month of Ramadan, most restaurants are closed during the day.



HERE ARE MY TOP 10 THINGS TO DO IN THE MAGICAL JUMBLE OF STONE TOWN



Emerson Spice House

EMERSON SPICE HOUSE

An enchanting rooftop restaurant and hotel, once home to the last Swahili ruler of Zanzibar. During restoration, thousands of abalone and oyster shells were found in its courtyard, hinting that once a mother-of-pearl-jewellery shop operated here. A rich Indian merchant used to trade from the building, and legend has it that he would dry carpets of sopping rupee notes (from the ships) on the floors! Emerson Spice House is drenched in opulent Arabic/Indian appeal, and its cosy cushion-seated eatery offers unparalleled views across Stone Town's skyline.

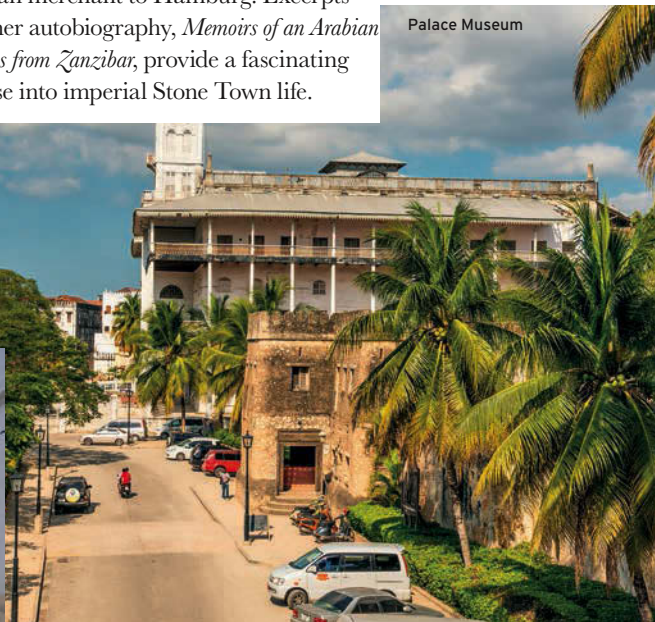


Emerson Spice House

PALACE MUSEUM

An imposing white-washed building, the former residence of Zanzibari royalty is now a museum dedicated to the history of Zanzibar's Sultans. Climb the central staircase and peel off into rooms archiving the different periods of the sultanate era (1828-1964). Do spend time in the chambers of Princess Salme, who eloped with a German merchant to Hamburg. Excerpts from her autobiography, *Memoirs of an Arabian Princess from Zanzibar*, provide a fascinating glimpse into imperial Stone Town life.

Palace Museum



Zanzibar's famous doors, made from intricately carved teak and embellished with brass studs, are perfect photo-op spots



FORODHANI GARDENS

As the sun sets over Stone Town, locals and tourists alike flock down to Forodhani Gardens on the waterfront, where a nightly food market offers hot griddles laden with seafood. Quench your thirst with freshly squeezed sugarcane juice, and sample lobster and crab claw, and skewers of octopus dipped in tamarind.

CAPITAL ART STUDIO

Located near the top of Kenyatta Road, the studio was founded in 1930 by Ranchid Oza, the semi-official family photographer for Sultan Khalifa. Some 80 years later, it is now run by his son Rohit, a photographer himself who still shoots on film. The shop is a photographic treasure trove, and its walls are hung with the political and royal history of East Africa – a myriad lovingly framed black-and-white prints, with Prince Charles's 2011 tour proudly featured at the entrance.



Stone Town

Visit Lazuli



LAZULI

Tucked away in a corner just off Shangani Road, Lazuli is by far the best spot to eat lunch in Stone Town. Cheap and cheerful, this clean, colourful restaurant serves up a delicious array of modern Swahili fusion dishes, from coconut chickpea curry chapati-wraps to cashew nut and chicken salads, and cinnamon-spiced iced coffee. Locals on their lunch breaks and hungry tourists queue up for a menu lovingly created by South African Bonita Blom, who has lived in Stone Town for the last few years with her Zanzibari husband and son.

SPICE TOUR

Anyone visiting Zanzibar simply must go on a spice tour. Admittedly it's a well-polished tourist trap, but the experience is *so* worth it. You'll take a taxi to an interior plantation (many of which are no longer commercially functioning) and a local guide will walk you among vanilla pod vines, cumin seed pods and turmeric root. Feel your senses stir as your guide tells tales of ancient spice remedies, lets you sniff heady splinters of lemongrass and taste shavings of nutmeg – an old-world aphrodisiac.

Take a spice tour



ST JOSEPH'S CATHEDRAL

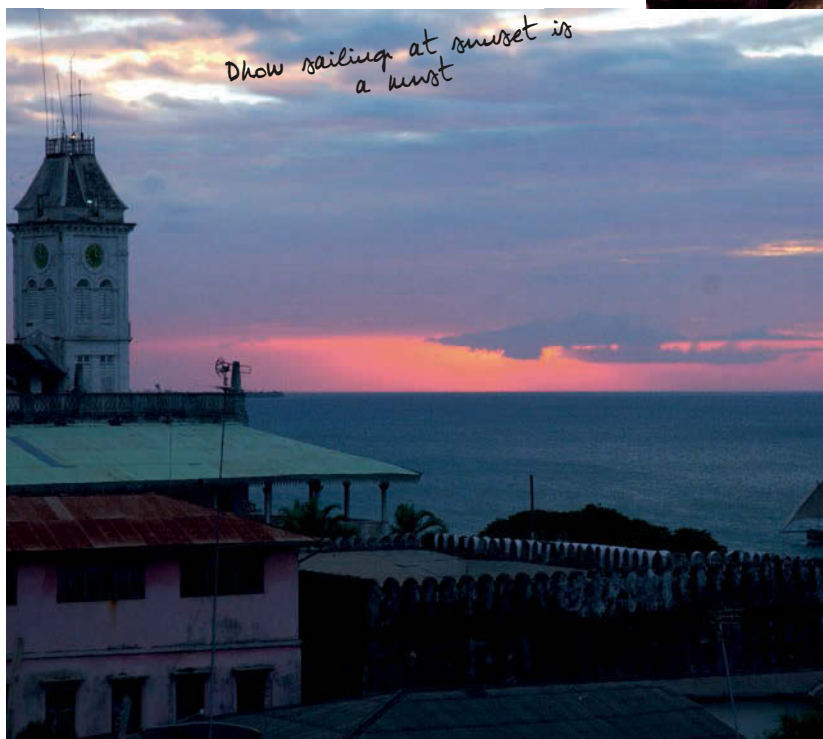
Peaceful, cool, and adorned by colourful biblical murals – the Roman Catholic Cathedral of St Joseph's is well worth the detour from bustling Kenyatta Road. It was built by French missionaries and is inlaid with stained glass windows imported from Europe. Try to visit when the local choir is practising, and make sure to pop across the road and take a peek at the intricately carved wooden chests in the workshop.

Zanzibar's most famous street food is its 'pizza' – a mixture of egg, vegetables, mayo and meat wrapped in dough and fried

SUNSET DHOW SAIL

The iconic dhow is an ancient Arabic sailing vessel, carved out of mangrove timber and flagged with a lateen mainsheet. These graceful boats plied the trade routes between east Africa, Persia and India for centuries. In fact, they are still built and operated today, although mainly for Indian Ocean fishing and transport. One of Zanzibar's biggest treats is to set sail on a sunset cruise and watch the historic Stone Town shoreline glide by, while the lights from mainland Dar es Salaam twinkle in the distance.

Dhow sailing at sunset is a must

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for our highlights
from Swahili
Fashion Week

HOW TO GET THERE An ever-increasing number of airlines offer direct flights to Zanzibar. Hydrofoils and catamarans operate daily between Dar es Salaam and Zanzibar; booking kiosks are clustered together along the port. Pemba can be reached by plane and boat from Zanzibar and mainland Tanzania.



GET LOST

One of the most liberating and rewarding activities in Stone Town is to do away with your map, get lost, and wander the labyrinth of cobbled courtyards and walkways. Be entranced by the heady aroma of strong Arabic coffee, feel your way through a shop hung with colourful Kanga fabrics, turn a corner, look up, and marvel at a mosque's dome punctuating the skyline, bringing lyrical verses of the Koran to mind. The beauty of Stone Town lies in its many surprises.

Zanzibar covers over 1 600 km² and its population numbers about one million



Zanzibar is a semi-autonomous part of Tanzania. Swahili, Arabic and English are the most widely spoken languages



DHARAJANI MARKET + SWAHILI COOKING CLASS

Food lovers and culture vultures will love this chaotic market, fringing the old part of Stone Town and spilling out onto side streets from beneath a gable-fronted awning. Dried squid, barrows of fresh fruit, packets of spices and meat weighed out on big brass scales – this is where Zanzibaris come to get their food fix. Visitors can take part in a traditional Swahili cooking class. A local teacher will meet you at Dharajani Market and lead you into the maze of live chickens and sacks heaving with spices. With the help of your teacher, decide on a traditional recipe (such as aromatic rice pilau, or kaimati – syrupy spiced dough balls). Brave the barrage of hawkers and tick off a shopping list of ingredients before travelling by daladala (local open-air taxi) to your host's home. Here you'll sit on a straw mat around an open fire and learn how to cook and eat in traditional Swahili style.



fashion-forward flair at Swahili Fashion Week



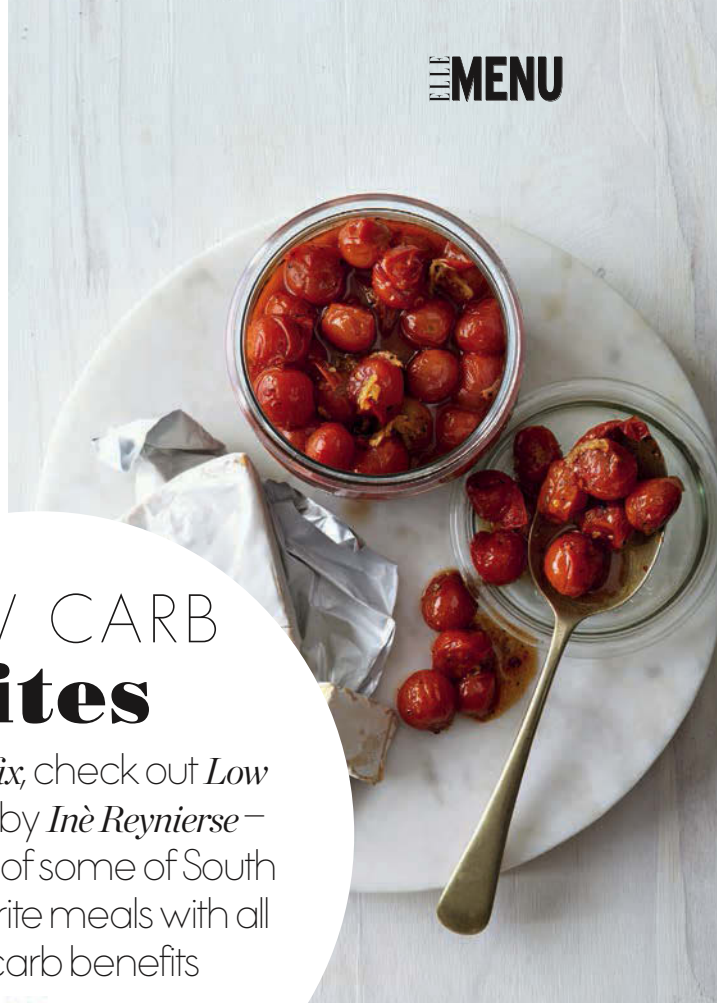
SWAHILI FASHION WEEK

Swahili Fashion Week was started in 2008 by Tanzanian designer Mustafa Hassanali. Now in its eighth year, the event has grown to be the biggest East African fashion event. The shows kick off at the beginning of December each year in the Tanzanian coastal city of Dar es Salaam. Designers who made an impression last year included Afrikanus by Rui Lopez, Jamilla Vera Swai and Gabriel Mollel. Find out more on Swahilifashionweek.com □

WHERE TO STAY There are accommodation options at every level, from basic guesthouse to up-market hotel. As a rule, room rates are quoted in US dollars and usually include breakfast. Travellers who arrive by boat can expect to be met by a group of touts whose insistent attitude is difficult to resist.

LOW CARB bites

For a foodie *fix*, check out *Low Carb is Lekker* by Inè Reynierse – a celebration of some of South Africa's favourite meals with all the low-carb benefits



CHERRY TOMATO AND GINGER JAM

The entire quantity of jam is 19g carbs, which translates to 1.2g carbs per 1T serving.

INGREDIENTS

- 2T coconut oil
- 400g cherry tomatoes
- 3T xylitol
- 1t chilli flakes
- 1T ginger flakes or grated fresh ginger
- 1t fine black pepper
- ¼t salt

METHOD

Melt the coconut oil in a medium-sized saucepan over medium heat. Add the tomatoes and the rest of the ingredients. Stir just enough to coat the tomatoes with the spices. Simmer, without stirring, for five to seven minutes, until the tomatoes start to ooze in the fragrant syrup. Do not stir. The tomatoes need to stay as whole as possible. As soon as the syrup reduces and turns a darker brown colour, remove from the heat and put the lid on the saucepan. Allow to cool to room temperature.



COCONUT AND FLAX BREAD

(no-nuts bread)

INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup coconut meal
- ½ cup flaxseed
- ½ cup flax meal
- 3T psyllium husk fibre
- 2t baking powder
- ½t bicarbonate of soda
- 1T xylitol
- ½t salt
- 3 large free-range eggs
- 2T coconut oil or butter
- ¾ cup hot water
- 4T mixed seeds

METHOD

Preheat the oven to 180°C. Mix all the dry ingredients together thoroughly in a bowl. Whisk the eggs and stir into the flour. Let the oil or butter melt in the hot water and then pour the mixture into the dough. Mix well and let the dough rest for two minutes. Pour into a buttered loaf pan and sprinkle with the seeds. Bake for 45 to 50 minutes.

TIP:

Double the batter for a bigger sandwich loaf suitable for a braai toastie.

Yields 1 loaf at 15g carbs for the entire loaf. Simply divide into portions to get a per-portion count.

t = teaspoon (5ml)

T = Tablespoon (15ml) □



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GO ONLINE
for another Low
Carb is Lekker
recipe

**INÈ REYNIERSE'S
THREE DREAM
DINNER GUESTS:**

Dr Seuss
CS Lewis
Audrey Hepburn





HOW TO

CREATE A BEAUTIFUL OBJECT

(HINT: TEST YOUR IDEAS)

ERRE's Natasha Jaume and Carina Louw share what it takes to make this leather and silk organza creation, nominated as Design Indaba 2015's Most Beautiful Object in South Africa

GET INSPIRED

Russian composer Tchaikovsky once said, 'Inspiration is a guest that does not willingly visit the lazy.' We are true believers in this statement and we always do extensive visual research in order to find inspiration for our collections. The inspiration for this dress came from our travels to the gardens of the Alhambra palace in Spain and the gorgeous Babylonstoren gardens in Franschhoek.



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[@errefashion](https://www.instagram.com/errefashion)

COMMIT

Accept – and commit fully to – the fact that creativity is a hard task-master and that to create any beautiful object, real hard work and determination is required. Five people worked on the dress at various stages, with every petal being hand-stitched onto the dress. But in the end, after clocking up more than 100 hours, the beautiful object was finished.

PLAY

An important part of creativity is to have fun with ideas. We played around with the hundreds of cut-off pieces of leather lying around in our studio by hand-stitching them onto pieces of fabric in various ways.

REFINE

At this stage unnecessary details are eliminated and the fit, fabric and design are refined until the whole creation is perfect.



GO ONLINE

to see ERRE's AW15 collection



MOTOR MOUTH

For sporty girls on the move, the eye-catching and stylish Fiat 500L Trekking proves to be a bright choice this month



EVERY WOMAN NEEDS OPTIONS, AND WITH A 400L BOOT THAT CAN FIT FIVE SUITCASES, WHO NEEDS TO PACK LIGHT?

THE WAY I'LL MAKE YOU FEEL?

That tingling thrill - that's amore.



My optional 1.5m² sunroof will easily accommodate your most elaborate fascinator.

I KNOW HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OF WHAT I'VE GOT, MAXIMISING INTERNAL SPACE AND WITH 30% INCREASED FRONT VISIBILITY.

Colour my world in seven different body colours, four metallic and three standard, finished off with seamless glazing.



MAKE USE OF UCONNECT, a multifunctional infotainment system able to connect media players and smartphones. Get your rock on!

I DON'T LIKE TO BOAST, BUT

I am equipped with dark-tinted windows and Traction+, an electronic braking circuit, allowing me to tackle tricky terrain.



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GO TO ELLE.CO.ZA for more info on the Fiat 500L Trekking

THE FIAT 500L TREKKING STARTS AT R314 900 INCLUDING VAT AND CO. TAX



NELSON BLACKLE by Nelson Leung



ZeevanCo by Meggie

Hong Kong is the fashion trendsetter, gathering the international fashion brands and design. The annual HKTDC Hong Kong Fashion Week for Spring/Summer takes place at the downtown Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre, 6 - 9 July creates a picture of global fashion trends for the coming seasons.

The fair offers the latest fashion, accessories and materials from around 1,200 quality international exhibitors. The exhibits cover garments and accessories in a myriad styles as well as fabrics and yarn. This is one-stop sourcing at its very best.



mountainyam by Mountain Yam

Premier Hong Kong Fashion Week Not to be Missed. . . .



Perfect Zoning

This fair is designed to cater to your needs as a buyer. For example, if you are looking for variety in limited quantities, the award-winning **SMALLORDERZONE** comprises exhibitors with a minimum order quantity (MOQ) of 5 -1,000.

Within **Fashion Gallery**, the largest zone, you will find designer labels and top brands; for trend-setting designs head for the **International Fashion Designers' Showcase**. Buyers who specialise in menswear will find an excellent selection in **Men In Style**.

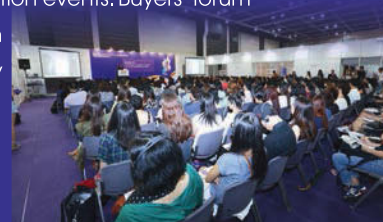
For accessories buyers, there are a number of must-visit zones, including **World of Fashion Accessories**, **Handbags Select**, **Salon of Scarves and Shawls** and **Fashion Jewellery Feast**.

Other zones that cater to different market segment include Emporium de Mode; Garment Mart; Denim Arcade; Activewear & Swim Wear; Intimate Wear; Infant & Children's Wear and Fabrics & Yarn.

Events Excitement

The great atmosphere of this internationally renowned show is created by fashion shows, house shows, designers' collection shows and runway parades every day with designers presenting new collections and top brands gathered into brand collections' shows.

Not only the trend forecast seminars by Fashion Snoops and WGSN Group, the fair also offers other information events. Buyers' forum brings insights into various markets from the buyers' point of view and a full-day symposium on textile innovation and technology will be presented by the Hong Kong Research Institute of Textiles and Apparel (HKRITA).



During social events held in Happy Hour, you will be able to network with industry players from all over the world.

For query, please contact HKTDC Office at Tel: (852) 2240 4593 or Email: hkfashionss.visitor@hktdc.org

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	7 For All Mankind 011 783 3505		FHI 021 448 8847		Madison Zando.co.za		SDM Eyewear 011 334 7020
	Adriano Goldschmied (Studio 8) 021 683 1666		Forever 21 021 555 3324		Mango 011 783 7907		Selfi 072 576 1539
	Akedo 082 491 8244		Forever New 021 555 3713		Marc Anthony 021 785 2650		Shana Morland 083 303 0979
	Aldo 011 884 4141	G	Gavin Rajah 021 424 7842		Mari and Me 021 424 5446		Shop-Label 021 794 7699
	Anna Scott 021 914 1390		Gerard Darel 021 418 6447		Marianne Fassler 011 646 8387		Sissy Boy 021 555 0211
	Armani 011 884 1425		GHD 031 766 0320		Mavala 0860 254 257		Spilhaus 021 425 4102
			G-Star Raw 021 418 9000		Max Mara 021 418 9447		Spitz 011 707 7300
			Gucci 021 421 8800		Maybelline 011 286 0700		Stefania Morland 021 422 2609
			Guerlain 021 442 7700		Michael Maven 011 028 0021		Studio 8 021 683 1666
			Guess 011 883 8391; 021 421 0110		Mimco 021 418 9893		Stuttafords 011 879 1000
					Morgan Taylor 0860 347 2436; 011 447 0659		Sunglass Hut 021 486 6200
					Mr Price (mrp) 021 551 4416		Swarovski 021 425 4102
B	Bobbi Brown 011 516 3000	H	Hugo Boss 0860 692 274	N	Nicci Boutique 011 783 7661	T	Tamara Chérie 082 788 4978
	Boo Radley 011 783 5215; 021 914 1390						Tart 021 447 5619
	Bronx 021 590 7000						Tessa Design 011 268 0997
	Burberry 021 425 8933						Thebe Magugu 071 450 6994
		I	Inglot 021 447 7718				Tiger of Sweden 011 784 0561; 021 421 9177
							Topshop 011 685 7070; 021 419 5900
							Trenery 021 670 7111
C	Calvin Klein 021 418 1185	J	Jenni Button 021 552 8844	O	OGX 021 785 2650	V	Vince Camuto 021 671 6301
	Carvela 011 707 7300		Jigsaw 021 418 1364				
	Catrice 0860 347 2436		Jo Borkett 011 883 7240				
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D	David Tlale 011 614 7424	L	L'Oréal 011 286 0700	R	Replay 021 418 8507	W	Wet n Wild 021 460 1009
	Diesel 011 630 4000		La Mer 011 516 3000; 0860 692 274		Retrosuperfuture 011 262 4478		Witchery 021 418 9893
	Dune 021 529 1970		Lacoste 021 421 8836		Rich Mnisi 079 066 9515		Woolworths 0860 022 002
			Levi's 021 425 3046		River Island 021 555 3691		
			Louis Vuitton 021 405 9700				
			Lumin 083 325 9977				
			Luxco 011 448 2210				
E	Elizabeth Arden 021 597 1700			S	Safilo 011 608 2265	Z	Zara 011 302 1500
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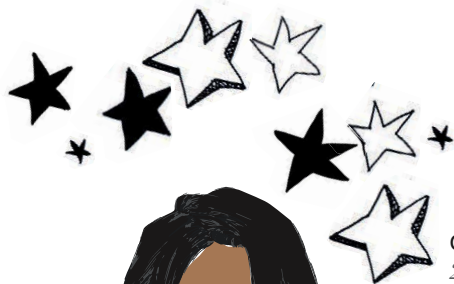
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GEMINI

21 May – 20 June

It's time to exercise some caution regarding your finances. If you draw up a budget and stick to it, you'll be able to work yourself out of a tight spot. Give serious thought to financial planning for the future.

CANCER

21 June – 20 July

You're likely to face challenges from colleagues or siblings, and you will need to be flexible in order to cope. Your intentions may be good, but you can't fix everything. Letting go will cause you far less frustration.

LEO

21 July – 20 August

Leo people are more focused on personal matters than external worldly issues this month. It's a time of introspection. Although you will be paying attention to your own needs, don't disregard the views of others.

VIRGO

21 August – 20 September

Exercise some restraint – you'll want to assert your opinions very honestly and directly, without considering others' feelings. On the plus side, you'll have the energy to work harder than usual.

LIBRA

21 September – 20 October

You are feeling restless and in need of a change, but you're

not sure how to go about it.

You need to broaden your horizons, you are bored with your routine and you're dreaming of better things. Sit tight this month, though; it'll all happen soon enough.

SCORPIO

21 October – 20 November

You have tremendous mental energy right now, which is increasing your ability to work for longer and achieve more than usual. However, those around you will not be able to keep up, which could frustrate you. Try to be diplomatic when it comes to expressing your feelings.

SAGITTARIUS

21 November – 20 December

You can achieve plenty if you proceed with caution and take care. Don't act recklessly or make hasty decisions; take all factors into consideration and make a balanced judgment. Blind optimism inspires everyone around you, but it can also get you into unnecessary trouble.

CAPRICORN

21 December – 20 January

Although you have the same workload and duties as usual, you will find it hard to concentrate and complete tasks. You are feeling restless and behaving in a rebellious manner, just the way a Capricorn person can. This could be perceived by others as avoiding your responsibilities.

AQUARIUS

21 January – 20 February

Work and relationships are going well for you. You seem to have managed to work through most of the difficulties that arose in the last two months in your personal life as well as your work environment. Although you are still under a considerable amount of pressure at work, and have been given additional responsibilities, you will manage it all very capably.

PISCES

21 February – 20 March

Change is in the air – this could be a change of home environment, your financial circumstances or even your career. Whatever it is, the change will be beneficial to you in more ways than you may be aware of. Embrace the new, even if you have to swim upstream for a while. The altered situation will bring you fresh inspiration, excitement and stimulation.

ARIES

21 March – 20 April

You'll have to work hard this month to further your own interests and assert yourself. You have the chance to show what you are capable of, in your personal and private life. As fortune has it, you will also be cautious and will want to think things through, avoiding reckless mistakes and keeping track of what you are doing. □

Taurus

21 April – 20 May

What a lovely month this will be for you. You will get along well with just about everybody, but you'll also be focused and able to achieve a tremendous amount in your usual careful and practical manner. Not much will distract you, apart from social events – and there'll be plenty of those to choose from.

BIRTHDAY CLUB

**ADELE
5 MAY**

Being naturally creative is a Taurus trait – the award-winning singer certainly exemplifies it!

**DAVID BECKHAM
2 MAY**

Taureans, like this best-dressed football star, appreciate the finer things in life.

**JESSICA ALBA
28 APRIL**

**ROBERT PATTINSON
13 MAY**



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VEUVE CLICQUOT MASTERS POLO 2015



‘Only one quality, the finest,’ said the famous widow, Madame Clicquot, herself. Since 1772, the iconic French brand that she founded has played an important role in the evolution of the Champagne industry. Veuve Clicquot inspires the world to ‘Be Clicquot’ – an ethos vividly illustrated by the annual Veuve Clicquot Masters Polo event in the Western Cape. This year it was held on 7 March at Val de Vie Estate in the Paarl-Franschoek valley.

It was a day of glitz, glamour and all things luxury – and it sparkled with the excitement and elegance of a glass of Champagne.

VIP guests, media and celebrities were treated to a thrilling 12-goal polo tournament and enjoyed a parade of beautiful fashion.



Veuve Clicquot Masters Polo, co-owned by Val de Vie Events and VIVIDLUXURY, has grown over the years and now attracts local and international guests, such as actors Hakeem Kae-Kazim, Hannah New and Clara Paget as well as South African celebrities such as Lee-Ann Liebenberg and Nicky van der Walt, Jeannie D and ELLE's own cover star, Tarina Patel. The display of Bentleys, associate sponsor and official vehicle partner, added to the magical setting. □

Tickets for next year's event will go on sale in December at Computicket. Not to be missed...



Jenni Button and Hilton Weiner showed their new collections under the imaginative creative direction of Warrick Gautier.

"This year's décor theme was designed to reflect Veuve Clicquot's new International "mail campaign", inspired by Madame Clicquot,' says Aimee Kellen, Moët Hennessy Champagne Portfolio Manager for South Africa. She was considered one of the world's first serious businesswomen and conducted her business through the mail, sending letters to clients and suppliers. "The campaign celebrates her correspondence and her achievement in making Veuve Clicquot the phenomenal Champagne brand it is today,' says Kellen.



@nicolelee_n

FASHION'S FALSE STEP?

The no-nos of fashion are diminishing in the face of an ever-changing style democracy. Does this mean that fashion faux pas are a thing of the past?

Nicole Newman tracks the trends



I had told you three years ago that wearing socks with sandals would be a part of future fashion, you would never have believed me. If I'd told you that mandals (man sandals) were coming back into fashion, you would have cringed inside. But both of these have happened and, when we saw designers doing it, as well as our favourite celebrities and street style stars, we were quick to follow in their newly chic footsteps.

The same goes for trainers with jeans (or trainers with anything, really): this look went from functional to fashionable in one season of fashion week shows and we couldn't get our hands on a pair of Nike or New Balance fast enough. Even I convinced myself that I needed a pair of Free-Runs or I would fall behind in the fashion lane... Turns out the look really wasn't for me and those Free Runs are sitting patiently in my cupboard waiting for me to take them to the gym.

But it seems that in fashion today we can do no wrong. Well, provided the fashion authorities give it the go-ahead. Just look at Valentino's knee-length gladiator sandals on the Haute Couture runway, Chloé's denim maxi skirts from Spring/Summer 2015 (which I clearly remember wearing in the early 2000s) or the poncho that made its comeback on the Autumn/Winter 2014 runways and are now stocked in every major retailer. These are pieces that, flashback four years, would have constituted an all-out fashion faux pas but now, since they've been given style approval, we can't wait to wear them.

I'm not saying that we must rush out and buy whatever our favourite

designers put on the runway, but they definitely influence the way we exercise our purchasing power – and even what we want to wear (or don't).

The real fashion faux pas, I guess, is when you don't feel comfortable in the trends of the season but you wear them anyway. I was desperate for those Free Runs; I tried and tried to make them work with my wardrobe, but they weren't my style and I couldn't wear them with confidence. They just weren't ... me. When Marni (and many other designers) sent mandals down the runway and every store was making Birkenstock lookalikes, I knew that, even though I wanted to wear them, they would end up waiting vainly in my cupboard too. So I didn't even try. Even though these two top trends didn't work for me, they were worn with utmost confidence and style by women the world over and no longer qualified as a 'false step' in the world of fashion.

I find myself thinking back to my denim maxi skirt (leather tie in the front and all), which, until I saw the Spring/Summer 2015 Chloé show, I would have rather died than admit I owned (and loved to wear). Now that this look is back, there's a small part of me that wishes I had known that fashion often repeats itself, and had held on to that denim maxi.

When you look back at photos of yourself wearing cringe-worthy clothes, don't be too quick to get rid of them: you never know what the runway resurgence will be next season. Whether it's the poncho, flared jeans, mandals or maxis, just wear it well and you will never fall out of fashion step. □



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Go online to see past fashion faux pas on the runway



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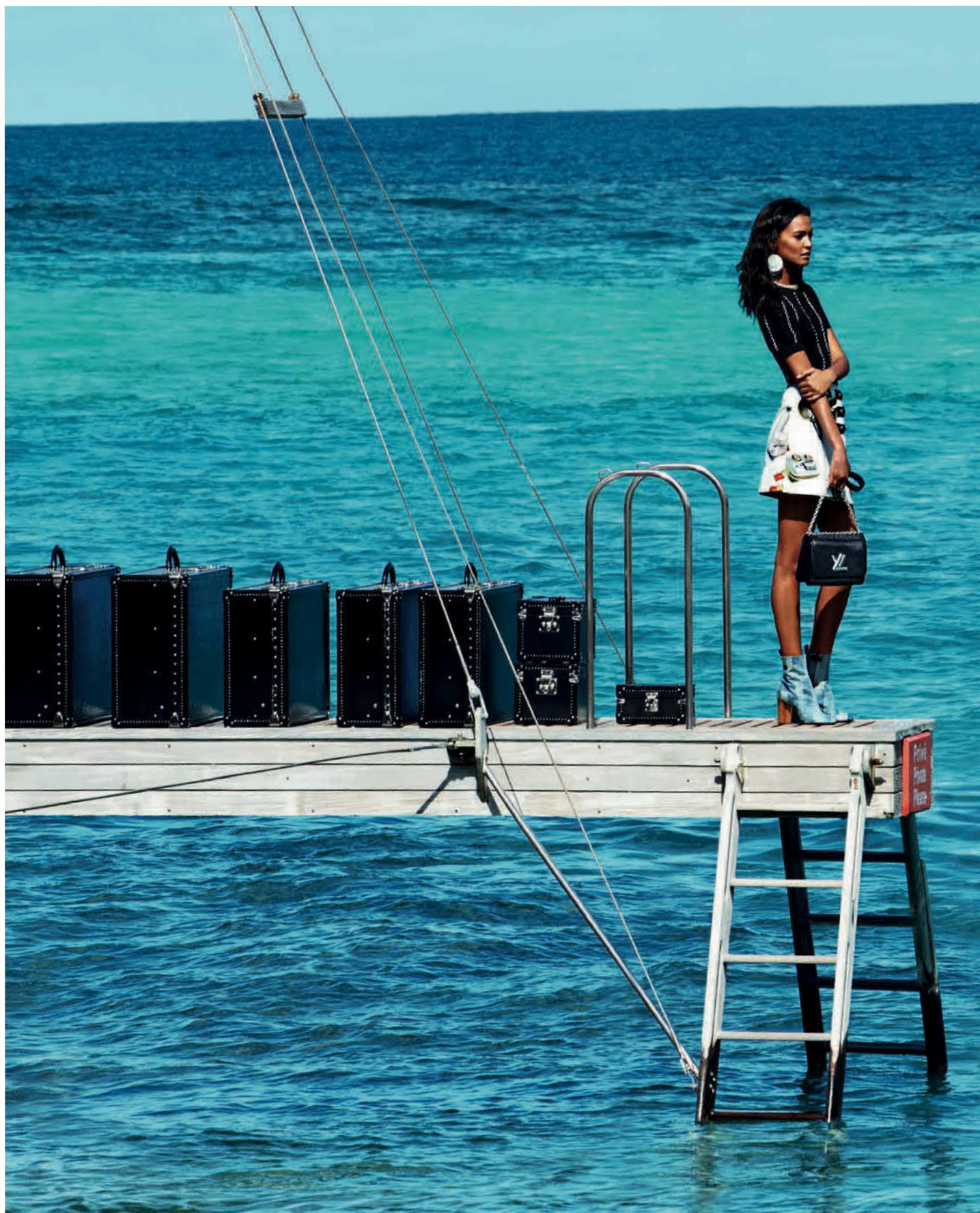
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